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FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO

FEBRUARY 1995

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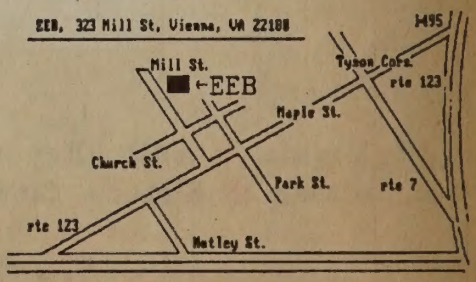

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Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
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T-MARC, Middle Atlantic Repeater Council
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COMING EVENTS

*Feb. 19	Cumberland County Winter Hamfest, Camp Hill, PA.
*Feb. 25	Appalacian ARC Group Hamfest, Lebannon, PA.
Feb. 26	Vienna Winterfest, Vienna, VA.
Mar. 2-18	STS-67, SAREX Flight with WA4SIR
*Mar. 18-19	Mecklenburg ARS, Charlotte, N.C.
Mar. 19	Local AMSAT Semiannual Meeting
*Mar. 12	York Springfest, York, PA.
*Mar. 19	Two Rivers ARC, Monroeville, PA.
Mar. 25-26	Greater Baltimore Hamboree, Timonium, MD.
*Apr. 1	Appalacian, Lebabon, PA.
*Apr. 2	Chesapeake ARS, Virginia Beach, VA.
Apr. 9	Palm Sunday
Apr. 10	Penn-Del ARC Hamfest, New Castle, DE.
Apr. 16	Easter Sunday
*Apr. 23	Carroll County
*Apr. 28-30	May Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH.
*Apr. 30	Kent Island Hamfest, Grasonville, MD.
*May 7	FAR/QCWA Annual Spring Banquet, Greenbelt, MD.
May 7	Warminister ARC, Wrightstown, PA.
May 6-7	Greenville, N.C., Hamfest
*May 14	Roanoke Valley Hamfest, Vinton (Roanoke) VA.
May 14	Mother's Day
May 14	Armed Forces Day
May 14	Triple States RAC, Wheeling, W.VA.
May 19-21	Atlantic Dic/N.Y. State Convention, Rochester, NY.
*May 21	Great Hagerstown MD. Hamfest
*May 28	Maryland FM Assn. Hamfest, Howard Co. Fairgrounds

*Dates Not Confirmed

FOUNDATION MEETING

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. meets at 8: p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

Visitors are always welcome

The next meeting will be held on February 8 in Tokoma Park, Maryland
Columbia Union College, Science Building Auditorium, Flower Avenue

(Take beltway exit 30 South on Colesville Road to FranklinAvenue, East on Franklin to Flower, South to the college)

Talk-in on 147.18

FCC HILIGHTS

By Jack Kelleher, W4ZC

Spectrum Auctions Continue

The second round of spectrum auctions, which began in early December 1994, is the subject of an article in the December 15 issue of The W5YI Report ("FCC Auctions of Spectrum for PCS Services"), which is the basis for some of the following.

The FCC has begun its massive sale of spectrum that wil be used to construct and operate the next generation of cellular telephone systems. The first, narrow-band auction of licenses to provide two-way paging and interactive television raised more than $1 billion this past summer. Initially the current wide-band auction was expected to raise some $10 billion for the U.S. Treasury. Now we are seeing figures like $15 billion. Just how much the final figure will be is anybody s guess, but as of December 9th, after the first week of bidding, the total of bids was about $750 million.

The number of licenses may be between 2,000 and 2,500, in more than 500 major and basic trading areas. Frequency-wise, these licensees must operate in bands allocated to the land mobile service and the associated mobile-satellite service. The total width of the bands allocated to these services, between about 800 and 2500 MHz, is on the order of 400 MHz. More space for these services was allocated or earmarked in ITU Region 2, at WARC-92; and still more frequencies may become available as a consequence of the ongoing effort to transfer 200 MHz from Government to non-Government use.

FCC Reorganization Implemented

Effective December 1st, the FCC's Private Radio Bureau became the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, which will handle FCC domestic wireless telecommunications programs and policies except those involving satellite communications. The Bureau also will serve as the Commission s principal policy and administrative resource concerning spectrum auctions.

Regina M. Keeney is Chief of the new Bureau, with Ralph A. Haller and Gerald P. Vaughan as Deputy Bureau Chiefs. Both of Keeney's parents are licensed Amateur Radio operators. Her father, John Markey, W2AAW, said "Gina grew up with Amateur Radio in the house. We are an enthusiastic ham family. I often show her QST, and especially the "Happenings" column, when she visits".

The Wireless Telecommunications Bureaeu will have seven divisions, two of which will be concerned with Amateur matters.

The Private Radio Division will handle rule making and regulatory matters concerning Public Safety, Industrial, Land Transportation and other private mobile radio services, Aviation, Marine, Amateur, Interactive Video Data Service (IVDS), broadcast auxiliary service, Personal Radio Services, point-to-point microwave, antenna tower clearance, and the radio operator examination program. Additionally, this Division will project demand for existing and possible new communications requirements and services.

There will be no branches or Branch Chiefs within the division. Robert H. McNamara heads the new Private Radio Division, with Herbert W. Zeiler as Deputy. Staffers include John B. Johnston, Kathryn Hosford, Monty J. DePont and Robert James.

The Licensing Division will oversee the processing of applications and licensing of Specialized Mobile Radio, paging, Private Land Mobile, Private and Common Carrier Microwave, Broadcast Auxiliary, amateur radio, IVDS, aviation and marine and General Mobile Radio Services.

Status of Tandy's proposed Family Radio Service

Several months ago the Radio Shack Divisiion of Tandy Corporation filed a Petition for Rule Making (RM-8499) for a new unregulated and unlicensed Family Radio Service (FRS), using frequencies in the General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) bands at 462 and 467 MHz. (See Autocall September 1994).

The proposed new service would use half-watt narrowband FM transceivers which can operate on flashlight battery power. Tandy/Radio Shack is already testing GMRS unlicensed FRS communications in some markets under an FCC Special Temporary Authorization.

Formal comments and reply comments on RM-8499 came from two areas, GMRS users and the commercial sector.

The GMRS users community opposed the FRS proposal. Their position was that mixing licensed and unlicensed operators on the same frequency will not work: harmful interference will be caused to existing GMRS operations; The current professional quality GMRS will deteriorate into consumer-grade communications ; the primary interest of Tandy (and other commercial interests) is to sell a ton of cheap radios without regard to the consequences.

Comments from the commercial sector were unanimously in favor of a Family Radio Service.

Motorola noted recent Congressional authorization to de-license GMRS. They suggested that FRS be given co-primary status. Motorola believes that opposition to the FRS is due the desire of GMRS users to keep their numbers low. They (Motorola) feel that the FCC should be seeking regulatory policies that encourage the widespreasd use of radio.

The Mobile and Personal Communications Division of theTelecommunications Industry Association believes that the FRS would have broad market appeal, but only if it were an unlicensed service.

Tandy contended in its reply comments that the American public has long needed convenient, high quality, short range communicaions which is (sic) currently unavailable.

Uniden agreed with Motorola and Tandy that FRS would be a broadly popular service. They do not feel that low cost, low quality radios would overrun the spectrum, nor would FRS cause interference to current GMRS users.

According to the W5YI Report, the FCC will now have to decide whether to go forward with a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, or dismiss the proceeding. W5YI foresees that the Commission could also issue a broad-based inquiry into the need for a short-range unlicensed public communication service. Action is not expected before the spring of 1995.

Status of Vanity Call Signs

The ARRL Letter for December 14, 1994 reports that the FCC Authorization Act that would have converted an annual regulatory fee for Amateur Radio "vanity" call signs to a one-time appplication fee failed to pass in the last session of Congress. The bill, H.R. 4522, passed the House but failed in the Senate despite a concerted last-ditch effort by ARRL to have the bill considered during the lame duck session. Broadcasting and Cable magazine attributed the bill's defeat to opposition to unrelated provisions by the National Association of Broadcasters. The FCC now is expected to introduce a "vanity" call sign program with a $70 fee renewable every ten years.

Westlink Report says don t look for any action until the second quarter of 1995. They speculate that the Commission will probably announce its decision the last weekend in April — perhaps at the Dayton Hamvention Forum.

Commercial License Examinations

For those interested in this subject, there is a four-page report, in The W5YI Report for December 1st, concerning a meeting between the FCC and representatives of all nine COLE (Commercial Operator License Examination) Managers on November 18th.

CD-ROMs

An excellent story entitled "CD-ROMs for the Radio Amateur" appears in the fall 1994 issue of Communications Quarterly magazine, published by CQ magazine.

Morse Code Update

We have been following and reporting on the activities of ORACLE, and on an NZART (New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters) study of the matter. NZART's position was communicated to the NZ Minister of Communications in a letter which stated in part:

"It is therefore suggested that the New Zealand position on Article 32 and RR2735 of the ITU Radio Regulations at coming conferences of the ITU should be:

1. To not actively seek any change to the current text of Article 32 or to RR2735 at this time;
2. To support NO CHANGE (NOC) to the text of Article 32 and to RR2735 should this subject arise during the proceedings of an ITU conference, and
3. To review this position at such time when future technical developments can provide an alternative means to ensuring intercommunication on the limited HF spectrum allocated to the Amateur Service, or when increased HF spectrum for the Amateur Service should become available "Your confirmation of this as the New Zealand position would be appreciated."

Mr. Williamson, the Minister of Communications, replied as follows:

"Dear Mr. Meachen,

Thank you for your letter of September 19th and the additional information with respect to the Morse code and amateur radio.

While I acknowledge the stance taken by your International Amateur Radio Union members, and the New Zealand society, on the question of the retention of the Morse code requirements, I am of the view that it would be unwise to adopt the three very precise positions which you postulate.

I am advised, and believe, that the amateur service worldwide is a progressive body of enthusiasts, who look to the future for self-training, intercommunication and technical investigation. To adopt a rigid stance on the matter of the value, or indeed, in the opinion of some, the low value of Morse code as a means of intercommunication is, in my opinion, contrary to the progressive nature of the hobby.

Having said that, I can give you an assurance that New Zealand will not actively make proposals for changes to the International Radio Regulations, as they affect the amateur service, until such time as there is evidence of significant opinion here in New Zealand, and or overseas, to support modification of Article 32."

(Ed: The foregoing is based on an article in the December 1, 1994 issue of the W5YI Report — which also contains a lengthy response by ORACLE to the NZART statement. It's obvious from these developments that "It ain t over until the fat lady sings". Meanwhile, keep in mind that elimination of the requirement for Morse code is not the same as proscription.)

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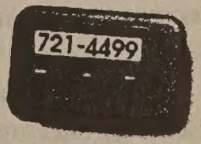

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AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE REPORT

by John Swafford, W4HU

The ARRL Report provides a brief summary of information published in the ARRL Letter and other reports. The LETTER provides timely news of interest to active Radio Amateurs. Any League member may subscribe to the ARRL LETTER.

The 1994 Amateur Radio Year in Review

January: ARRL seeks lifetime amateur licenses

* The ARRL petitions the FCC to make Amateur Radio operator licenses valid for a lifetime. The proposal would apply only to operator licenses; station licenses would still, by law, be limited to 10-year terms.

* In response to an FCC proposal in late December 1993, an ARRL ad-hoc committee is named to develop a recommendation on a "vanity" call sign program for the board to consider.

* The ARRL files comments in opposition to an FCC proposal to grant immediate on-the-air privileges to amateur examinees before a license is issued by the Commission, saying that electronic filing would be a better way to address the problem of excessive delays.

* The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy (DEPE) proposes to register and assess fees for sources of nonionizing radio frequency radiation. In mid-December 1994, amateurs are exempted.

* Amateurs are reminded that in 1994 license renewals begin again after a 5-year hiatus.

* Former Headquarters staffer Vern Chambers, W1JEQ, dies at age 78. He worked for the League for more than 25 years.

* The first ARRL DXCC Yearbook is mailed to about 7500 active DXCC participants.

* In Minnesota, a federal appeals court finds in favor of Sylvia Pental, N0MRW, after a three-year battle for a tower in Mendota Heights. Pentel's lawyer is John B. Bellows Jr, K0QBE, assisted by an ARRL amicus curiae brief filed by General Counsel Chris Imlay, N3AKD.

* The League petitions the FCC for primary amateur allocations from 902 to 904 MHz and from 912 to 918 MHz, with certain geographic limitations, instead of their current secondary status.

February: Novices get more 222-MHz rights

* February 1 is the opening date for enhanced privileges for Novice class licensees on the 222 MHz band, as well as the day a weak-signal segment goes into effect at 222.0 to 222.15 MHz.

*Russian and American amateurs aboard the US space shuttle are able to operate thanks to a last-minute pact between their two countries, who finalize temporary third party and reciprocal operating agreements just after the shuttle lifts off. The ARRL and the FCC's Personal Radio Branch save the day.

*The ARRL tells the FCC that a proposal to adopt new standards for exposure to radio frequency radiation should be terminated, because it is premature and should have been introduced as an FCC notice of inquiry, in any case.

* The ARRL asks for an extension of the comment deadline on an FCC proposal to establish a "vanity" call sign system, in PR Docket 93-305, saying that insufficient time was given for comments and that legislation pending in the Congress could affect the way by which the FCC could charge fees for call sign requests.

* The average cost of a hard cover technological book is $48.83, according to Publisher's Weekly. The cost of the ARRL Handbook is $25.

* The ARRL files reply comments on an FCC proposal (PR Docket 93-267) for "instant licensing" for amateurs, and says that virtually every individual and group who commented agreed that while licensing delays need to be reduced, the proposed idea was a bad one.

* A preliminary plan from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for reallocating government frequencies to nongovernment uses--around 2300 and 2400 MHz, doesn't go far enough in responding to the will of Congress in protecting the needs of amateurs, the ARRL says.

* For the second month in a row, mailing of QST is delayed by the Winter of '94, when ice in Kentucky shuts down the R.R. Donnelley and Sons printing facility for two days, delaying March QST.

* Joe Lynch, N6CL, ARRL Oklahoma section manager, visits Cuba and lays the groundwork for joint US-Cuban amateur operations later in the year.

* The ARRL and the Field Operations Bureau (FOB) of the FCC sign a new agreement on the use of amateur volunteers, a revised and expanded version of one entered into in 1984.

* The robot packet station counter aboard SAREX flight STS-60 clicks over more than 4000 connects with amateurs.

* The FCC announces that some of its information is now available on the Internet, including the FCC Daily Digest, news releases, some public notices, and the text of speeches by Commission officials.

March: Telephone survey raises many questions.

* The FCC releases the results of a telephone interference survey, concluding that since some telephones are "bulletproof," all of them could be. But it's not that simple, since the bulletproof models lack some of the features consumers want.

* The FCC extends the comment deadline in its "vanity" call sign proposal to April 21, 1994, at the League's request.

* The FCC also extends the reply comment deadline in its proposal to adopt new standards for exposure to RF radiation; the League continues to advocate dropping of the proposal entirely.

* The League warns amateurs that a commercial company is sending notices in the mail to hams whose Amateur Radio licenses are about to expire, offering to renew the hams' licenses for a fee ($5). Meanwhile, at the direction of the Board of Directors, the ARRL undertakes the same project for its members--for free.

* The FCC releases its Notice of Proposed Rule Making for new license fee assessments, including Item 59, amateur "vanity" call signs (if a plan is every approved).

April: ARRL prepares vanity call sign position

* The ARRL Executive Committee approves the recommendations of its ad hoc committee on the FCC's "vanity" call sign proposal (PR Docket 93-305), bases on input from hundreds of League members.

* Space shuttle SAREX flight STS-59 is launched April 9, with seasoned ham-astronauts Jay Apt, N5QWL, and Linda Godwin, N5RAX, on board. They begin operating the orbiting ham station just a few hours after launch.

* The Amateur Radio Service Joint Resolution, J.J. Res. 199, reaches the point that a majority (226) of the US House of Representatives are cosponsors, on April 11.

* The ARRL Executive Committee instructs ARRL's general counsel to file a petition with the FCC to elevate amateurs' status on portions of the 2300-MHz band.

* The FCC orders 59 amateur licensees to be re-examined on exam elements passed at examination sessions coordinated by the ARRL-VEC in southern California between late 1992 and mid-1993, for cheating.

* Washington State gets Senate Bill 5697, limiting the ability of municipalities to enact antenna and tower regulations, by pointing out the federal preemptions of the FCC's PRB-1.

* The League petitions the FCC to increase the minimum number of members necessary for granting a club station license from two to four (RM-8462), in anticipation of reactivation of the club call sign program, dormant, since 1979.

* The ARRL files comments on the FCC's "vanity" call sign proposal, emphasizing an orderly assignment system, a one-time application fee, and fairness.

May: Fcc denies proposals to reduce exam requirements

* The FCC denies three petitions from amateurs to change the licensing structure, one to lower Morse code requirements and two others to eliminate the 5 wpm CW examination for the Novice license.

* The ARRL replies to comments on the FCC's "vanity" call sign proposal, and opposes a proposal by Fred O. Maia, W5YI, to establish a "Vanity Call Sign Administration" program in the private sector.

* The FCC denies two petitions for reconsideration to broaden the so-call "pizza rule" (in effect since September 1993), as well as one seeking changes in the amateur service rules to reduce the number of license classes.

June: Automatic control proposed rules released

* The FCC issues its NPRM in PR Docket 94-59, proposing to allow automatic control of digital stations under certain conditions on the HF amateur bands.

* N6CL's efforts pay off when a unique joint Cuba-USA operation on Cuban soil takes place, including the ARRL June VHF QSO Party.

* The members of the ARRL's volunteer Bio-Effects Committee resign in a disagreement with the Board of Directors. ARRL President George Wilson, W4OYI, calls their reasons for resignation "insubstantial" and pledges continued League activity on bio-effects.

* The FCC proposes to amend its rules to allow persons who have passed the examinations for a commercial radio operator license, but have not yet received the license, to temporarily and conditionally perform the functions of a commercial radio operator, citing processing times of as much as eight weeks. At the same time, amateur licensing applications are taking as much as 12 weeks.

* Beginning with FCC licenses issued June 8, amateurs are advised to carefully note the expiration date, as only new (first) licenses or specific renewals have a full 10-year term. Upgrades and so on are processed with the original expiration date intact. Also, "TECH PLUS" now appears on licenses.

July: Joint Resolution gets a boost in the House

* Key provisions of ARRL's House of Representatives Joint Resolution 199 are included in H.R. 4522, the FCC Authorization Act of 1994, a major step toward eventual passage.

* A study on electromagnetic fields find that wieners are four times as likely to cause cancer as EMFs. It does not specify kosher or nonkosher.

* The ARRL Board creates a new RF Safety Committee to continue where the Bio-Effects Committee left off.

August: FCC paper backs amateurs' 2300-MHz position

* The FCC report strongly supports continued Amateur Radio presence in the 2300-MHz band, challenging preliminary recommendations by the NTIA that large portions of the band be reallocated for other uses.

* The FCC announces upcoming reorganization of several of its bureaus and offices, under a new bureau to called the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. Co-Deputy chief of the new bureau will be Ralph Haller, chief of the Private Radio Bureau.

* The ARRL DX Advisory Committee votes to recommend setting a minimum size for new DXCC countries; implicit in this recommendation is that operation from an island must take place from the surface of that island.

September: HPM/125 a big hit

* The HPM 125th Anniversary Celebration is a major hit, as absence of sunspots notwithstanding.

* A survey of three major volunteer examiner coordinators by the FCC leads to a number of "recommendations" apparently aimed at shoring up the "wall" between organizations involved in both publishing study materials and in coordinating VEs (namely, the W5YI-VEC and the ARRL-VEC, which account for about 88% of all VEC activity).

At the same time, the FCC calls 1993 the "most productive year yet" for the VEC system, the three reporting VECs coordinating more than 9,600 examination sessions.

* International Morse code requirements and the status of the 40-meter band are among topics discussed at t meeting of the Administrative Council of the IARU.

* The ARRL comments on an FCC Notice of Inquiry in preparation for the next ITU World Radio Conference, scheduled for November 1995, and says realignment of the 7-MHz band should be held until 2001. The League also says that a future agenda item should be an "International Amateur Radio Permit."

* Of 51 amateurs who are given the choice, by the FCC, of reappearing for examination or forfeiting the privileges they obtained through exams taken in California in 1992 and 1993, only three appear for re-test, and all three fail.

* The FCC denies a petition proposing exemptions from Morse code exams for people age 65 and older, saying that FCC rules already provide for Morse code exemptions for certain recognized disabilities.

* The ARRL-VEC and W5YI-VEC begin testing electronic filing software from the FCC.

October: Three VEs face stiff FCC sanctions

* The FCC orders three California amateurs to show cause why their station licenses should not be revoked, and orders their operator licenses suspended. All three are Amateur Extra volunteer examiners accused of fraud.

* The League's joint resolution supporting Amateur Radio passes bothhouses of Congress in the wee hours of the morning of October 7. The bill asks for "reasonable accommodation" in the operation of Amateur Radio in homes, automobiles and public places.

* Robert W. Jones, VE3CTM, is elected director of the Radiocommunication Bureau of the ITU, Jones, 50, replaces the retiring director, Richard C. Kirby, W0LCT, and attributes his professional interest in radio to his roots as a licensed radio amateur as a teenager in 1959.

* The ARRL Awards Committee rejects, 5-to-2, the recommendation of the ARRL DX Advisory committee to set a minimum geographical size for new DXCC countries. DXAC Chairman Bob Beatty, W4VQ, says the committee will submit a new recommendation, on appeal.

November: ARRL presses for action on automatic control

* The ARRL files reply comments on FCC PR Docket 94-59, that proposes to allow automatic control of digital stations on the HF bands under certain specific conditions, urging the FCC to adopt the League's original proposal for specific subbands and other restrictions as a best compromise.

* The FCC sets December 19, 1994, as the comment date for a Notice of Proposed Rule Making to convert a block of spectrum from federal government to commercial use, including parts of the 2400-MHz band shared by Amateur Radio on a secondary basis with the government.

* The ARRL's joint resolution supporting Amateur Radio is signed into law by President Bill Clinton on October 22--it's now Public Law 103-408.

* David Funderburk, K4TPJ, is elected to the US House of Representatives. Funderburk, a Republican, was picked for North Carolina's 2nd District. He's 50 and was first licensed at age 15. "I just want to be a good friend [to amateurs] and do what I can," Funderburk says.

December: FCC opens new Wireless Telecom Bureau

* Regina Keeney is named chief of the FCC's new Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, which opened December 1. Both of her parents are licensed amateurs.

* The ARRL comments of the FCC's NPRM on reallocation of 2400-MHz spectrum, arguing that the NTIA failed to follow the will of Congress in selecting these segments for new commercial use.

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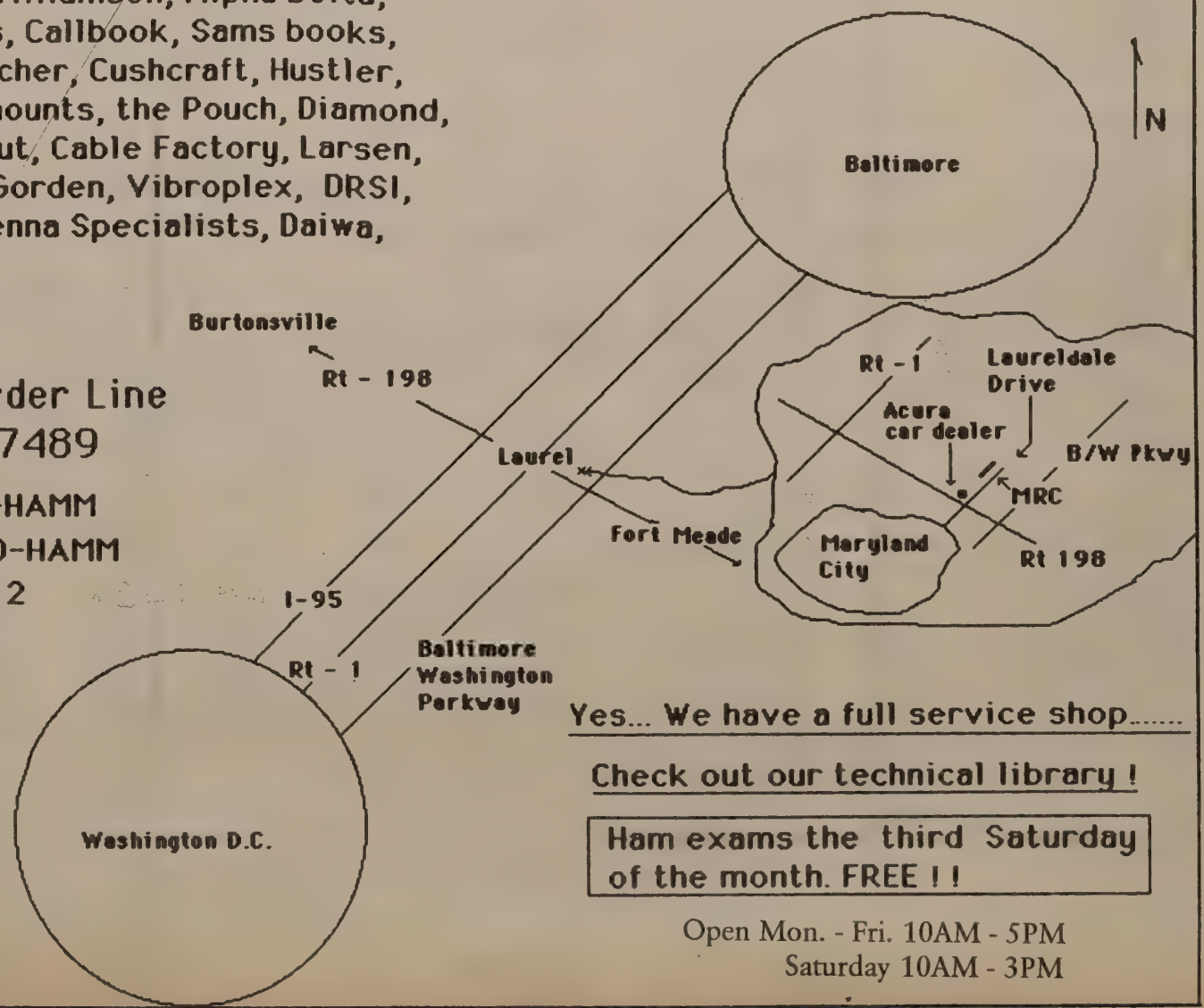

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Saturday 10AM - 3PM

TRAFFIC FUN

By Geri Sweeny, N4GHI

Valentines Day is an occasion of joy for all involved. Imagine sending a message with a short poem beginning, 'Roses are red, violets are blue', I'm adding an ending, especially for you.' Or you can disregard the flowers, and design one from beginning to end. You will not only bring joy into someone life, but to all of the traffic handlers in between. This is your chance not only to send a neat Valentines Day message, but also to send it in a very unique way. If you would prefer not to join a net to do this, and feel unsure of packet, call a traffic handler and let them send it for you. Some of the many traffic handlers in this area are:

N4ABM	Ole	Reston	860-0512
N6ANQ	John	Mt Vernon	360-3773
N4DCC	Bill	Falls Church	534-1972
KE4DXA	Danny	Reston	481-3754
K4GR	Bob	Arlington	528-7885
W4HU	John	Arlington	536-9537
WB4KSG	Lon	Stephenson	662-4242
WD4MIS	John	Arlington	534-1428
KR4MU	George	Arlington	538-4959
N6OD	Bob	Woodbridge	590-5678
N3PDK	Mike	Alexandria	671-2627
KD4TWR	David	Leesburg	777-5070
N4YE	Buddy	Centerville	830-3195
W4YE	Chris	Annandale	830-3195
WA3YLO	Tony	Bowie	262-1917

The holiday season between Thanksgiving and New Years Day was very busy - as it always is- Traffic handlers look forward to this hectic season as the grand finale of each year. My favorite message (relayed from California to Maine) included this in the text: "Received your radiogram. Glad to hear the barge is on its way. Have sent 1000 camels marching East with all your gifts."

Bring a smile to someone special (and traffic handlers) with a Valentine message.

N4GHI, STM VA

The Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.

FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO FAR

Washington, DC

PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR
MARYLAND/DC SECTION

Melvin J. Morenz N3EKZ
416 Brooks Court
Glen Burnie, MD 21060-7616

Voice: (410) 760-9426
Packet: N3EKZ @ WB3V.MD.USA.NA

MADRAS SPECIAL EVENT

The Maryland Apple Dumpling Amateur Radio Society (MADRAS) will be activating the Voice of America Amateur Radio Club (K3VOA) during the President's Day weekend of February 18-19, 1995.

For additional information or participation in this event, call Hani Raad AA3EI at (202) 223-3925.

1995 ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX (CW) CONTEST

Have you stayed away from CW contests because your code speed is to slow? Did you know that one way to increase your code speed is to participate in CW contests? To help increase your speed, try operating in the higher portions on each band and in the Novice CW subbands, for the 1995 ARRL International DX Contest.

Increase your DXCC totals by working as many amateur stations in as many DXCC countries of the world as possible (1.8 to 30 MHz excluding the 10, 18 and 24 MHz bands).

The CW portion of the Contest will occur on the third full week-end in February (Feb. 18-19, 1995). The Phone portion of the Contest is the first full weekend in March (Mar. 4-5, 1995). For details, see the Rules on pg. 122 in December 1995, QST.

Try QRP: 5-W output or less and see how much fun it is, you may be surprised.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Nominations are now being sought for annual awards to be presented at the ARRL Atlantic Division Convention, to be held in association with the Rochester, New York, Hamfest, May 19 to 21, 1995. The awards are commemorated by handsome plaques presented at the hamfest banquet.

"Amateur of the Year" nominees should be outstanding Amateurs from the Atlantic Division with a strong record of service to the Amateur Radio community.

An award for lifetime service to Amateur Radio, the "Grand Ole Ham," is open to Atlantic Division amateurs who have been licensed at least 30 years or are at least 50 years of age.

The Atlantic Division "Technical Achievement" award may be presented to an individual or to a group.

Complete information is available from the Rochester Hamfest, 300 White Spruce Blvd, Rochester, NY 14623. Deadline for all nominations is April, 1995.

CLUB OFFICER ROSTER

The new year is here and most of the clubs in the MDC Section have new club officers. In the December 1994 issue of Auto-Call a request was made that all clubs submit a new roster of their officers to ARRL HQ, the Division Director, Hugh Turnbull W3ABC, the Section Manager (SM) Bill Howard WB3V, the Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC) Tony Young W3YLO, and the Public Information Coordinator with the new names, addresses and phone numbers of your clubs new officers so that a current roster may be maintained and important news and other items from HQ are sent to the correct club officers.

There are 50 plus clubs in the MDC Section and as of the beginning of the year a total of two clubs, The Laurel Amateur Radio Club (LARC) (submitted by Roger N3MIJ) and the Antietam Radio Association (ARA) (submitted by Page WA3EOP) have submitted their rosters. Additionally the name of the new president for the Potomac Valley Radio Club was submitted by Hugh W3ABC. Many thanks to Roger, Page, and Hugh for passing the information along.

If your club is not listed here, nominate a Public Information Officer for your club and have them send me a completed FSD-187 Application For Station Appointment as soon as possible, or have your club secretary submit the information.

If the officers are on packet, indicate how each officer may be contacted. If your club is not currently affiliated with the ARRL, please consider the benefits and request an application today (SASE's are appreciated).

73, Mel N3EKZ

UPLOAD YOUR AUTO-CALL ARTICAL TO THE MRC BBS

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880-4266 (6 P.M. - 9 A.M. Only)

If you should experience any trouble uploading your files, Call MRC at 880-HAMM
The Staff will be more than willing to talk you through it.

1995-1996
National Capitol ARES Council Public Service Calendar

February 1995

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28				

March 1995

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April 1995

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May 1995

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June 1995

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July 1995

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February

20 GW Birthday Parade (NVA-ALEX)

March

11 St. Patrick's day parade (NVA-ALEX)
25 Boy Scout 1/2 Marathon (DC)

April

8 Cherry Blossom Parade (DC)
15 Bull Run Run (NVA-FFX)
23 GW Parkway 15K (NVA-MTV)
MS Walkathon Reston (NVA-FFX)
29 Dogwood 1/2 100 (NVA-D1)

May

6 Apple Blossom Parade (NVA-D1)
13 American Lung Association Bikathon (NVA)
14 American Lung Association Bikathon (NVA)
20 MS 150K Bike-athon (NVA)
21 Crystal City 10K (NVA-ARL)
MS 150K Bike-athon (NVA)

June

3 Old Dominion 100M Horse (NVA-D1)
4 American Heart Association 10 K race (DC)
6 Hurricane NANA Exercise (MEMA)
9 Alex Waterfront Festival (NVA-ALEX)
10 Alex Waterfront Festival (NVA-ALEX)
11 Alex Waterfront Festival (NVA-ALEX)
24 Field Day
25 Field Day

July

4 4th of July on the Mall (DC)
July 4 Mt Vernon (NVA-MTV)

September

17 MS 1/2 Marathon (DC)
23 Children's Festival (NVA-FFX)
24 Children's Festival (NVA-FFX)

October

1 Westmore School Run (NVA-FFX)
7 Claude Moore Farm Park (NVA-FFX)
8 Clifton Day (NVA-FFX)
Claude Moore Farm Park (NVA-FFX)
14 Simulated Emergency Test (MDC)
22 The Marine Corps Marathon

The NCAC meets every Sunday at 9:00 P.M. on 146.91- MHz
For more information call:
Hani Raad / AA3EI (202)223-3925

August 1995

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		1	2	3	4	5
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September 1995

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November 1995

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December 1995

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January 1996

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28	29	30	31			

DX DX DX

By John Kanode, N4MM

DXAC VOTES ON MARQUESAS AND AUSTRAL ISLANDS, BALLENY ISLAND AND MOBILE DXCC AWARD

The ARRL DX Advisory Committee, DXAC, has voted 14 to 2 against a petition to add Austral Islands and the Marquesas Islands to the DXCC Countries List. Those voting against shared the feeling that French Polynesia is not a Point 1 DXCC country and for that reason these two island groups do not qualify as separate countries under the current DXCC rules. The DXAC voted 13 to 1 against adding the Balleny Islands to the DXCC Countries List. Most of those voting against this proposal felt that the Balleny Islands are a part of Antartica.

The DXAC also voted 14 to 2 against recommending establishment of a DXCC award for contacts made while operating mobile. Many comments stated the impossibility of verifying that contacts were indeed made while operating mobile. It was noted that all DXCC awards today are based on either band or mode.

The voting on Pratas Island is scheduled for January 1995. Also before the DXAC for consideration are The Kingdom of Mustang, Scott Island, Scarborough Reef. Also the DXAC is considering the deletion of Aruba from the DXCC List.

UPCOMING DX CONTESTS

ADRS WW RTTY WPX Contest	February 4-5
10-10 Int'l Net Phone QSO Party	February 4-5
1995 Classic Radio Exchange	February 5-6
YL-OM Contest Phone	February 11-13
ARRL International DX Contest CW	February 18-19
CQ WW 160 Meter DX Contest Phone	February 24-26
REF French Contest	February 24-26
RSGB 7 MHz Contest CW	February 25-26
UBA Contest CW	February 25-26
YL-OM Contest CW	February 25-27

TIDBITS

The Jemtlands Amateur Radio Club will be promoting Sweden as a possible candidate to hold the Olympic Winter Games in the year 2002. They will be operating with the special callsign of 7S30WG from January 1, 1995 until June 16, 1995. QSL's for this operation go to SM3CVM.

Future operations from Desecheo Island will not be possible due to guerilla bands on the island and the authorities will not be responsible for anyone's safety, so permission to go there is not being granted at this time.

The new 1995 officers for the North Shenandoah DX Association areN4PMQ, President; N4SLR, Vice President and KR4DO, Sec/Treas.

Paul and Nancy Smith, N4FFO/KB4RGW will be taking over the QSL Manager List ("GOLIST") including DX-BBS and the PacketCluster SYSOP interface (SH/QSL and SH/GO). Jay and Jan, W6GO/K6HHD operated the GO list for 15 years and now wish to retire and enjoy Amateur Radio. Many thanks for providing these services for the past 15 years.

JA1UT and JA3UB will be in the GAZA Strip in February 1995 to help with getting an Amateur Radio Club started and to do some operating. Palestine was deleted from the DXCC List in June 1968. For it to be added back to the DXCC List, a petition would have to be filed with the DXAC. So far this has not been done.

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TRAINING CLASSES

New Editor JOHN FORREST WZ4A New Editor
6111 Burnett St.
Alexandria, VA 22310
(703)971-3905

Please send announcements for training classes and club training contacts to WZ4A at the above address. Deadline is the 25th of the 2nd month prior to the Autocall publication date (e.g., 25 November for the January issue).

CLASS ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTRY-LEVEL CLASS

The Kent Island Amateur Radio Club in conjunction with the Queen Anne's County Parks and Recreation will offer a basic amateur radio course at the Kent Island Elementary School library from 7 to 9 PM on Tuesdays beginning January 24, 1995. The class will meet weekly for 10 weeks. A minimum of 5 registered students are required for the course to be given. An FCC exam session will be offered at the conclusion of the course. Cost is $3 (Parks and Rec. fee). Contact: Ron Hill WB3KMX, Chester, MD, at 643-5872.

CLUB TRAINING CONTACTS:

Alexandria RC	Rich Adamy KA4GFY	(703)644-3920
Anne Arundel RC	Tony Young WA3YLO	(301)262-1917
Arlington ARC	Fred Bardsley WD4DHW	(703)533-0372
Antietam Rad Assn.	Robert Long KD3JK	(301)824-5132
Baltimore RATS	Joe Chidester W3SHZ	(410)602-0353
Baltimore ARC	??	(410)780-6854
Fauquier ARC	Neil Spokes AB4YK	(703)364-3861
Frederick ARC	Steve Bauman W3FOA	(301)662-4552
Herndon Rep't Gp	Michael Weber WB8RDN	(703)450-2304
Laurel ARC	Pub Reaver W3DQI	(301)498-6293
Madras	Larry Ziecheck	(301)984-6112
MD Mobileers ARC	John Baugus N3JME	(301)551-3161
Montgomery ARC	Jane Rosenthal AA3CQ	(301)762-6262
Mt. Vernon ARC	John Forrest WZ4A	(703)971-3905
NASA/Goddard ARC	Vikki Gigante KA3PVS	(301)249-2609
Ole VA Hams ARC	John Fritsch N4YOB	(703)791-5995
Pentagon ARC	David Boyd K9MX	(703)659-6241
St. Marys Co. ARC	??	(301)862-2214
Shenandoah Val ARC	Guy Black W4PSJ	(703)722-4952
Southern MD ARC	Vic Curtis WA3YUV	(301)888-1388
Southern Pax ARC	Dwayne Kincaid WD8OYG	(301)586-2177
Springfield Est ARC	Will Schmitt KD4CNX	(703)768-5709
Stafford Adult Ed	Jerry Mullinix AC4HK	(703)659-3905
Sterling Park ARC	Mark Johnson WS3N	(703)430-3804
Tri-County ARC	John Creel WB3GXW	(703)572-5124
Vienna Wireless	Paul Wilkins AB4CY	(703)560-2779
Woodbridge Wireless	Cliff Deel KO4FM	(703)491-0841

FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COOPERATIVE

JOHN FORREST WZ4A
6111 Burnett St.
Alexandria, VA, 22310
(703)971-3905

NOTICES:

* Effective July 1, 1994, the General Class written exam questionpool (Element 3B) was changed. Be sure to use study materials appropriate for the current question pool.

* Copies of the complete (as of date) 1995 VEC Exam schedule from the AUTOCALL database are available. To obtain a copy, please send a large, self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage to cover 10 letter-size pages along with $1.00 to cover copying costs to WZ4A at the above address.

SCHEDULE OF EXAMINATIONS
1995

February 5, 1995 (Sunday)

Landover, MD - D.C.M. ARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 (Day)
(301)773-2898 (Evening)

February 11, 1995 (Saturday)

Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Frank Mackey N4GUS (703)455-1510

Cumberland, MD - Mountain ARC (Mount. ARC VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Leo Patterson KQ8E (304)289-3576
Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674

Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC)
Walk-In
Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083

February 16, 1995 (Thursday)

Towson, MD - Baltimore ARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Bob Kennick WB3HNV (410)426-8255 Mailbox #3468

February 18, 1995 (Saturday)

Laurel, MD - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC)
Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In
Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM

Smithsburg, MD - Mid-Atlantic DX & Rptr Assn. (ARRL VEC)
Pre-Registration Requested
Contact: J.M. Vaia WB8VBW (301)416-8447 Box 110

February 28, 1995 (Tuesday)

Annapolis, MD - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC)
Pre-Registration Requested, Walk-In limited
Contact: Lois Turner KA3VVQ (410)647-4178

March 5, 1995 (Sunday)

Landover, MD - D.C.M. ARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 (Day)
(301)773-2898 (Evening)

Elkins, WVA (Mount. ARC VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Walter Corley KF8SX (304)637-0506

March 11, 1995 (Saturday)

Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Frank Mackey N4GUS (703)455-1510

Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC)
Walk-In
Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083

March 18, 1995 (Saturday)

Laurel, MD - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC)
Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In
Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM

Smithsburg, MD - Mid-Atlantic DX & Rptr Assn. (ARRL VEC)
Pre-Registration Requested
Contact: J.M. Vaia WB8VBW (301)416-8447 Box 110

Continued on next page

March 24, 1995 (Friday)

The Pentagon, Arlington, VA - Pentagon ARC (ARRL VEC)
Pre-Registration Encouraged
Contact: Jim Fox KE4EID (703)756-8994 (Work)
(703)931-6523 (Evening)

March 28, 1995 (Tuesday)

Glen Burnie, MD - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC)
Pre-Registration Requested, Walk-In limited
Contact: Jerry Gavin NU3D (410)761-1423

April 2, 1995 (Sunday)

Landover, MD - D.C.M. ARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 (Day)
(301)773-2898 (Evening)

April 8, 1995 (Saturday)

Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Frank Mackey N4GUS (703)455-1510

Cumberland, MD - Mountain ARC (Mount. ARC VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Leo Patterson KQ8E (304)289-3576
Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674

Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC)
Walk-In
Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083

April 15, 1995 (Saturday)

Laurel, MD - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC)
Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In
Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM

Smithsburg, MD - Mid-Atlantic DX & Rptr Assn. (ARRL VEC)
Pre-Registration Requested
Contact: J.M. Vaia WB8VBW (301)416-8447 Box 110

April 20, 1995 (Thursday)

Towson, MD - Baltimore ARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Bob Kennick WB3HNV (410)426-8255 Mailbox #3468

April 25, 1995 (Tuesday)

Annapolis, MD - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC)
Pre-Registration Requested, Walk-In limited
Contact: Lois Turner KA3VVQ (410)647-4178

May 7, 1995 (Sunday)

Landover, MD - D.C.M. ARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 (Day)
(301)773-2898 (Evening)

Elkins, WVA (Mount. ARC VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Walter Corley KF8SX (304)637-0506

May 13, 1995 (Saturday)

Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Frank Mackey N4GUS (703)455-1510

Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC)
Walk-In
Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083

Culpeper, VA - (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred
Contact: Bill Brown AC4KP (703)547-3089
Gary W0QDP (703)854-6187

May 14, 1995 (Sunday)

Antietam Radio Assn (Greater Hagerstown Hamfest)
(Mount. ARC VEC) Pre-Registration Desirable
Contact: Leo Patterson KQ8E (304)289-3576
Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674

May 20, 1995 (Saturday)

Laurel, MD - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC)
Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In
Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM

Smithsburg, MD - Mid-Atlantic DX & Rptr Assn. (ARRL VEC)
Pre-Registration Requested
Contact: J.M. Vaia WB8VBW (301)416-8447 Box 110

Continued on next page

May 23, 1995 (Tuesday)

Glen Burnie, MD - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC)
Pre-Registration Requested, Walk-In limited
Contact: Jerry Gavin NU3D (410)761-1423

May 26, 1995 (Friday)

The Pentagon, Arlington, VA - Pentagon ARC (ARRL VEC)
Pre-Registration Encouraged
Contact: Jim Fox KE4EID (703)756-8994 (Work)
(703)931-6523 (Evening)

EXAM FEES:

* Check for appropriate exam fee.
  Fees and modes of payment for individual
  VECs and exam teams may vary.
* ARRL VEC exams cost $5.75
* Laurel VEC exams are free
* Mountain VEC exams are free
* W5YI VEC exams cost $5.75

BRING TO EXAM:

* Picture identification
* Completed FCC form 610 (most VE teams will supply at exam)
* Original and a copy of current FCC amateur radio license
* Originals and copies of all active certificates of successful completion of prior exams
* Exam fee (check or cash depending on VE team)

"GRANDFATHER" CREDIT FOR ELEMENT 3B (GENERAL WRITTEN):

* If you presently hold a Technician class license which was first issued prior to March 21, 1987, you may be grandfathered for Element 3B (General class written exam) by presenting the original and a copy of the license dated prior to March 21, 1987 to the VE team. It is your responsibility to prove that you are entitled to grandfathering. Do not lose your origi nal license!

RULES FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE FAR VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COOPERATIVE:

1. All submissions must be in writing
2. Date and day of week must be specified for each exam date
3. Point of contact and phone number must be specified
4. Sponsor and location must be specified
5. VEC must be specified
6. Exam dates up to 12 months in advance will be accepted
7. Deadline for submission is 25th of the 2nd month prior to publication date (e.g., Sept. 25 for November issue)

AMATEUR RADIO NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer fifty-six (56) scholarships for the academic year 1995 - 1996 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds five of these scholarships with the income from grants and its annual Hamfest. The remaining fifty-one (51) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from $500 to $2000 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in **Delaware, Florida, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin**, are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, on their nets, during training classes, and in their club newsletters.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 1995 from:

FAR Scholarships
6903 Rhode Island Avenue
College Park, MD 20740

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(C)((3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

AFFILIATED

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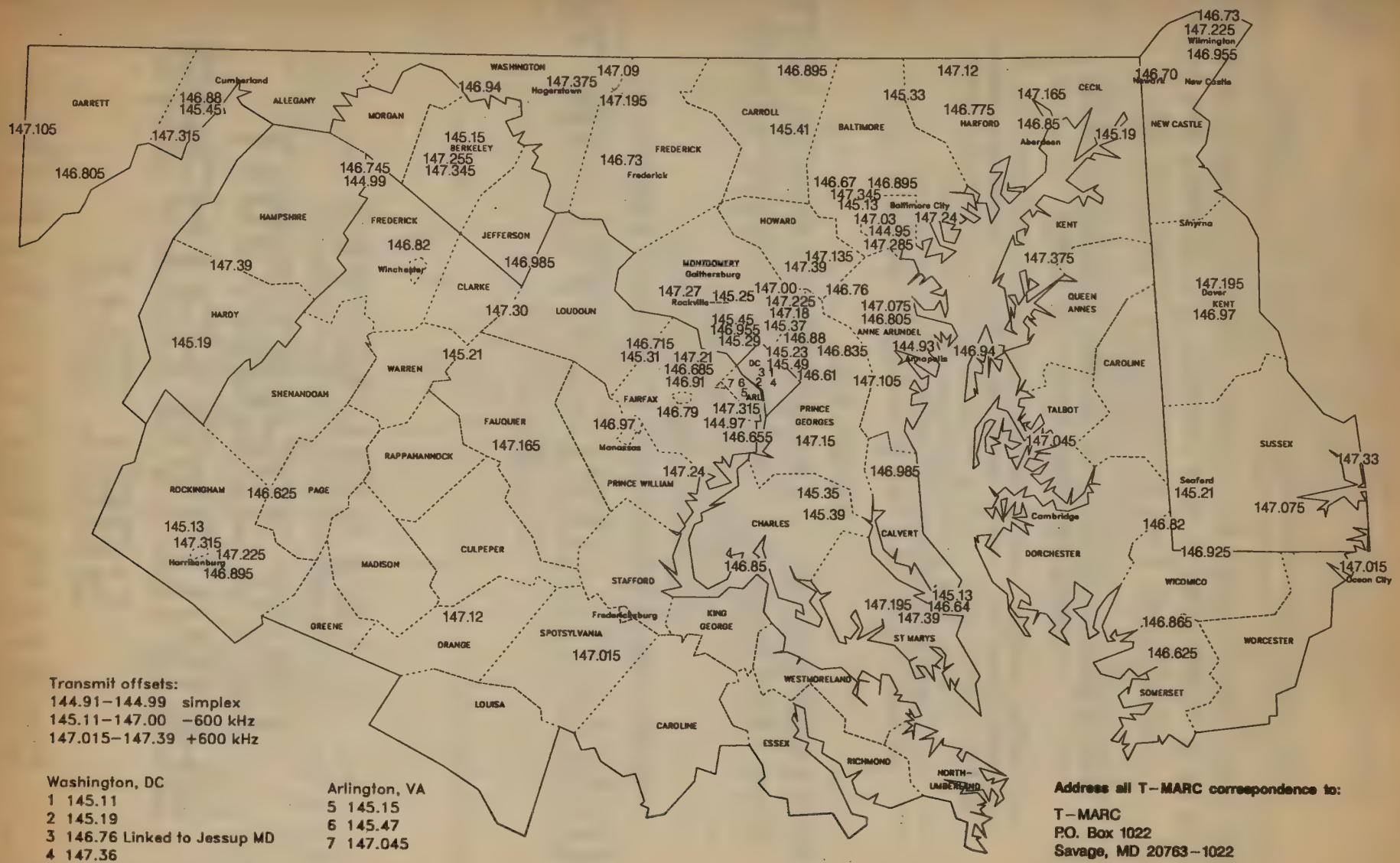
Sponsored by: The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

144 – 148 MHz Repeaters

Data as of January 1995

T–MARC Coordination Area

© 1995 WA2WDT



Transmit offsets:
144.91–144.99 simplex
145.11–147.00 –600 kHz
147.015–147.39 +600 kHz

Washington, DC
1 145.11
2 145.19
3 146.76 Linked to Jessup MD
4 147.36

Arlington, VA
5 145.15
6 145.47
7 147.045

Address all T–MARC correspondence to:

T–MARC
P.O. Box 1022
Savage, MD 20763–1022

NOTE: Not to be used for coordination.
Uncoordinated repeaters and some private repeaters not shown.

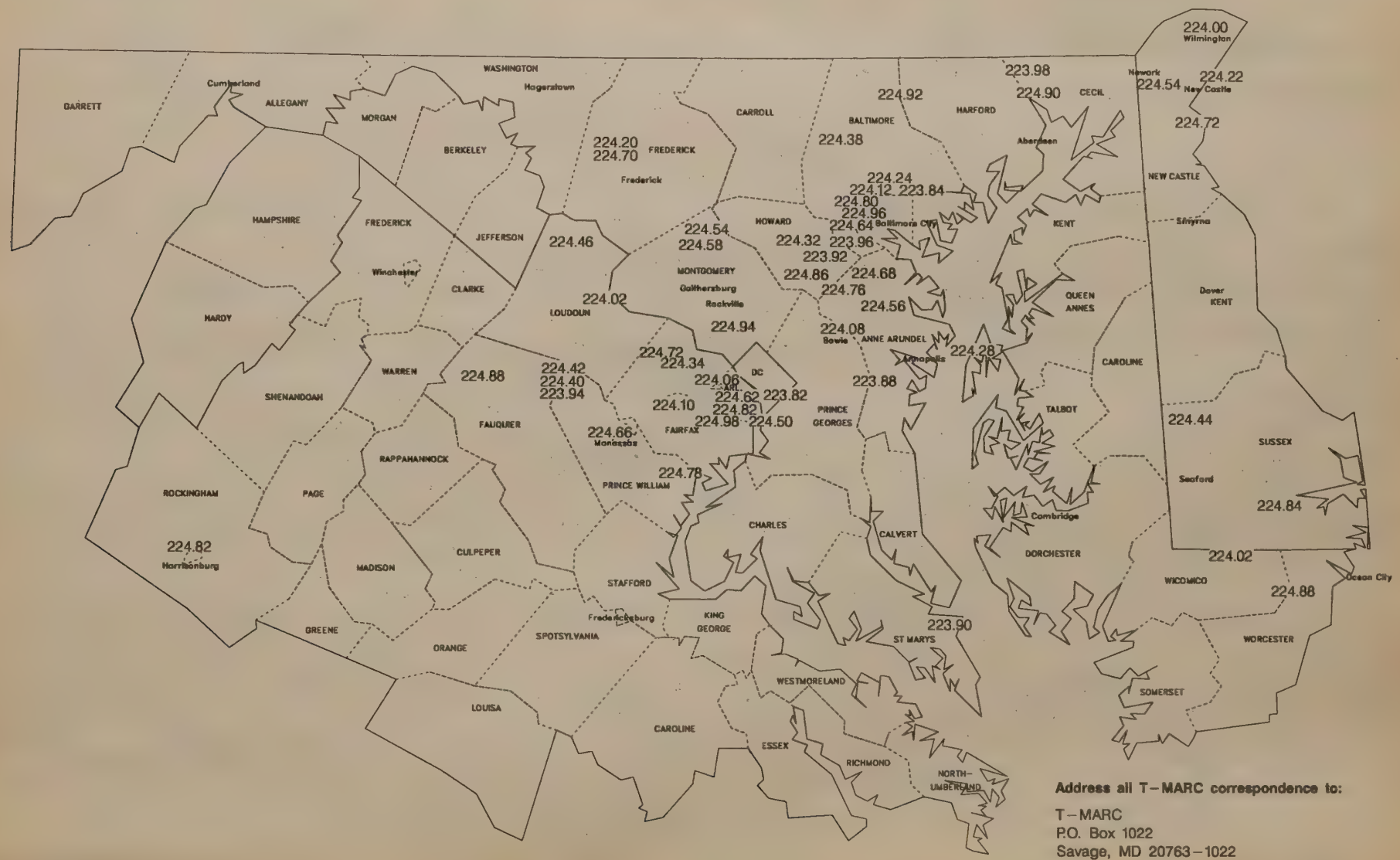
145.17 MHz is the Shared Non–Protected (SNP) Channel

222 – 225 MHz Repeaters

Data as of January 1995

T–MARC Coordination Area

© 1995 WA2WDT



Address all T–MARC correspondence to:

T–MARC
P.O. Box 1022
Savage, MD 20763–1022

NOTE: Not to be used for coordination.
Uncoordinated repeaters and some private repeaters not shown.

223.80 MHz is the Shared Non–Protected (SNP) Channel

442 – 450 MHz Repeaters

Data as of January 1995

T–MARC Coordination Area

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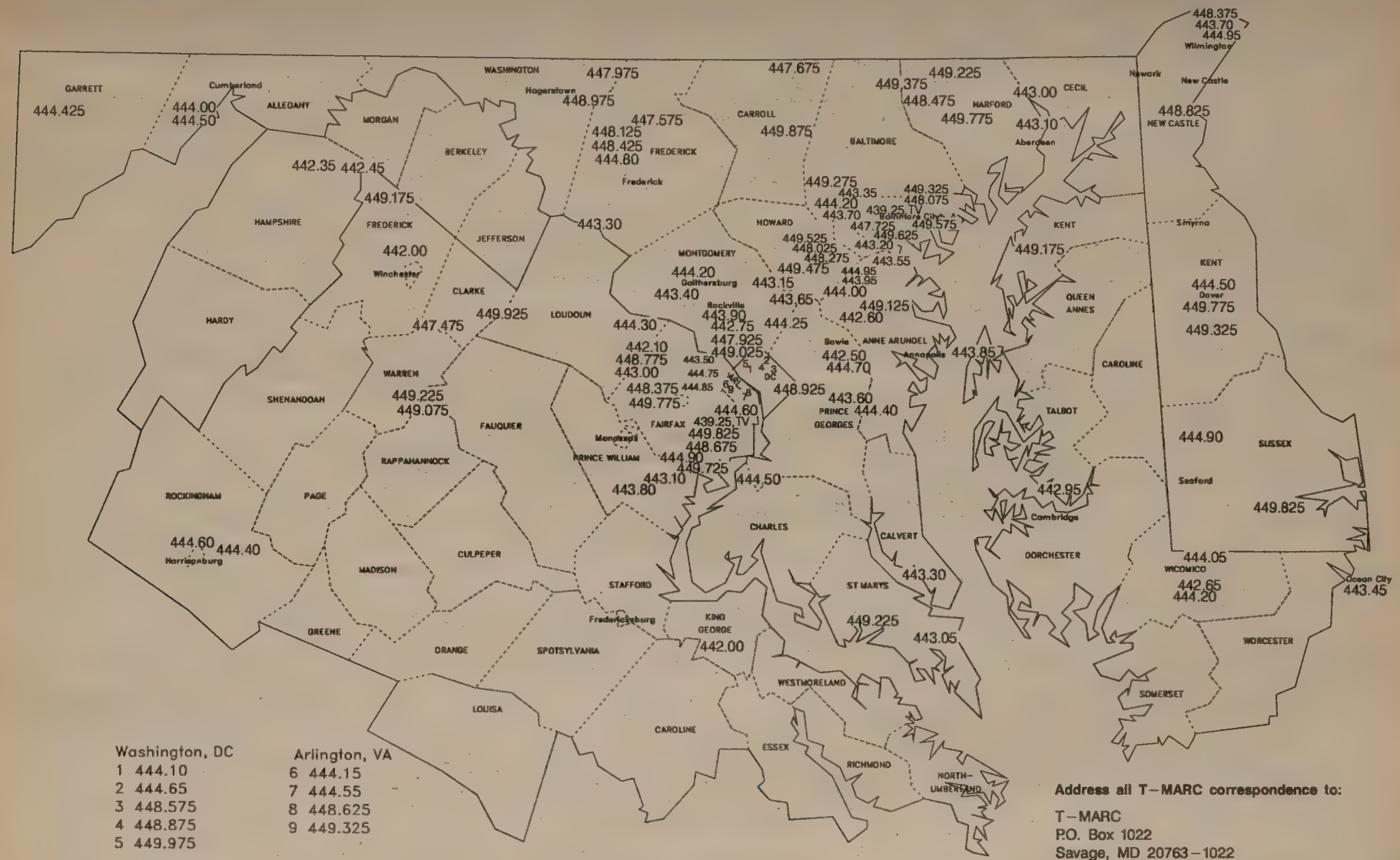


Washington, DC
1 444.10
2 444.65
3 448.575
4 448.875
5 449.975

Arlington, VA
6 444.15
7 444.55
8 448.625
9 449.325

Address all T–MARC correspondence to:

T–MARC
P.O. Box 1022
Savage, MD 20763–1022

NOTE: Not to be used for coordination.
Uncoordinated repeaters and some private repeaters not shown.

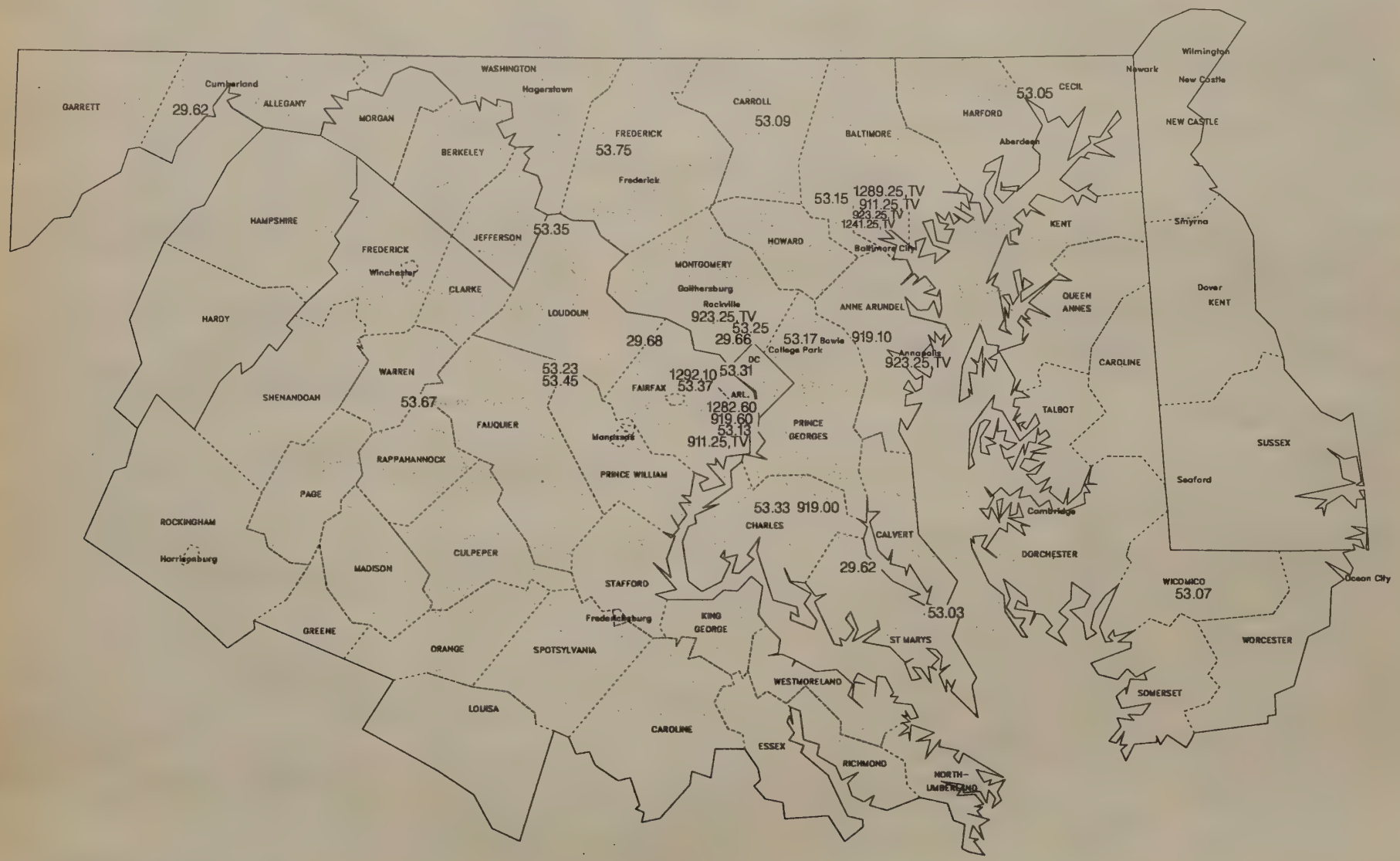
442.90 and 447.875 MHz are the Shared Non–Protected (SNP) Channels

29, 52, 902, and 1240 MHz Repeaters

Data as of January 1995

T–MARC Coordination Area

© 1995 WA2WDT



NOTE: Not to be used for coordination.
Uncoordinated repeaters and some private repeaters not shown.

920 and 1283 are the Shared Non–Protected (SNP) Channels

ELMER'S CORNER

By Paul E. Wilkins, AB4CY

There Comes a Time

A few years ago QST ran a contest to locate the worst-mess ham shack, and the results were hilarious. They came up with some photographs of some real disaster areas where even a rat might be uncomfortable. In the past few years I've had many an occasion to help the surviving family of a Silent Key sort through some pretty horrendous collections of electronic gear. A lot of it turned out to be 50 year old WW2 surplus which in a few cases amounted to several tons of chassis, transformers, steel cases, and boxes of miscellaneous parts. They were in the basement, attic, garage, shed, and sometimes just under everything else in the shack. All of us with an understanding family have at least some "stuff" that we keep for various reasons. There's nothing wrong with that, but there comes a time....

In one-ham only families there is no one who even knows how to start. What is it? Is it dangerous, Is it any good, and does it have any value? I've seen cases where things sat in the basement for twenty years because nobody knew what to do with it. I once found a 1939 Hallicrafters Super Sky Rider that had been in the attic for the fifty years since Gramps died. Nobody had any idea of how to turn it on or that it needed an external loudspeaker! Could that happen to your Kenwood?

So, what do we do? Well, as a starter you could make a list of what you have stashed that might have some value and make sure the family knows where the list is. It's even better if you list a ham friend by name and address who could be counted on for help. A reference to the FAR Widows Assistance program along with the way to get in touch would be a good idea. Don't chance leaving your family in the dark, it isn't fair. It also limits the chance that your prized rig will be declared worthless and be spirited away by someone who volunteers to "help". If you don't tell them, who's to know?

It becomes especially burdensome if the Silent Key hasn't left a valid Will directing disposal of assets. This makes it difficult for the family to dispose of much until the Probate Court decides a value and ownership and that can take some time. During this time you need the court's permission to remove estate property so you can sell a jointly owned residence. Who needs it? I had a situation a few years ago where we had to plead safety hazard to remove a hundred and twenty foot tower with a dual band cubical quad and an 8 Yagi array for 2 meters at sixty feet. The lot was conveyed by joint ownership, the tower was not. The willing buyer didn't want the tower as a condition of sale.

You can save your survivors a lot of problems by giving a little thought today. I'm as guilty as anybody, I have a CW rig that I built in 1952 which uses a Clapp VFO and a 350 W final that usesa 4E27 tube that I bought for 5 dollars the day I was discharged from the Navy in 1946. It is still going strong.

The XYL, bless her heart, bought me an anniversary present by ICOM a few years ago. I think there was an ulterior motive to get me to ditch that big chassis and eighty pound 2500 volt power supply that it takes to drive it that sits on the bottom of a six foot relay rack with all those beautiful 3 inch meters on steel panels. I couldn't lift it if my life depended on it and I think I'd be hard put to find very many who would know how to set the proper screen current by adjusting the grid drive and the swinging-link antenna loading coil. They say beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and to me my companion of a third of a Century in chatting with the DX world is just that. But I have to face it ....There Comes a Time. 73's

Antietam Radio Association

- Meetings: First and Third Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m. at E.O.C. of Washington County Courthouse, 100 West Washington Street, Hagerstown,Maryland
- Mailing Address: P.O. Box 52, Hagerstown, MD. 21741
- Nets: Tuesday 7 p.m. 146.940 MHz.; Wednesday 7 p.m. 447.975 MHz.; Thursday 7 p.m. 147.090 MHz.; Sunday 2 p.m. 28.350 MHz.
- Information: Donnie Sue Mulligan/KB3AOO (301) 582-2984

The Christmas Banquet was attended by more than sixty ARA members and friends at the Red Horse Steak House on December 2, 1994, starting at 6 p.m. The dinner was served in a warm and friendly atmosphere and our most sincere THANKS goes to Ellen Hammons/N3MZA and Sharon Blevins/N3PMK for their responsibility in bringing this all together for the 1994 Christmas Banquet.

There was a record attendance this year, including Lou Scally/WA3GLN, the weather man on Channel 25, and Mrs. Scally. Joe Rummel/NS3Q was the most able Emcee, wearing a tux that he'd worn to his retirement party just before our banquet. Good luck on your retirement, Joe.

A highlight of the evening was our guest speaker, Al Brown/WA3FYZ. Al spoke about the VOA and the people he has worked with, some of those are in your newspapers every day, and about his DXpeditions to the Cayman Islands. He told us a little bit about his life and about his thoughts on the future of Amateur Radio. Al Brown is a very knowledgeable and interesting man. Thank you, Al, for the excellent speech. We heard everything you said and was pleasantly surprised at some of those you know and what you've done!

Next; the presentation of the club awards. The recipients got their appropriate certificates. The Outstanding Amateur was Ray Mongrain/N3ODA, the Amateur of the Year was Robinson (Bob) Binau/KC3DW, and the MD/DC QSO Party Award for the ARA Club winner was presented to Joe Rummel/NS3Q by the MD/DC QSO Party Director, Ted Lawhead/WA3AAT.

Door prizes were won by many, each one looking for the several certificates for half-gallon of ice cream, many amateur radio related books, a gift certificate from Amateur Radio of Hagerstown, a Santa Claus cookie jar by Ellen Hammons/N3MZA, and table decorations made by Bette Wisher/KA3PQO.

Hoping everyone had a Merry Christmas and started 1995 with loads of memories and with a lot of ideas for the coming year.

73, Donnie Sue/KB3AOO

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Requires an FM receiver at 163.350Mhz, an IBM compatible computer with Windows and an evening to assemble. No recurring data costs!

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Dealer inquiries welcome

Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

- Meetings: Twice monthly, 7:30 pm at Dulaney High School (Padonia Road, Timonium MD) -First Wednesday of the month: business meeting -Third Wednesday of the month: programming
- Repeaters: W3FT/RPTR 146.67(-)/224.24(-) (no PL) and 449.625(-) (PL 107.2) Note: two meter/220 Mhz are linked.
- Club Net: Every Tuesday night at 8:30 pm on 146.67/224.24
- Club BBS: (410) 665-7646 (minimum 2400 baud)
- Club Voice Mail/Information: (410) HAM-TALK
- Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest/Maryland State ARRL Convention Information: (410) HAM-FEST or (800) HAM-FEST
- Mailing: BARC, Inc.; P.O. BOX 120; Reisterstown MD 21136

The normal routine of daily life was disrupted one afternoon in November when several tornadoes struck downtown Baltimore, causing widespread destruction and leaving hundreds of people homeless. The storms passed through town in mid-afternoon, and by the time people were beginning to leave work that afternoon the American Red Cross was already opening shelters to feed and house the displaced families. One of the Red Cross volunteers, also a ham, came on the club repeater and asked for communications support for the Red Cross operation, since telephone lines and cellular telephone links were congested to the point of overload. Club members quickly alerted Jim Schmidt, N3FFB, Baltimore County ARES Emergency Coordinator, who organized a prompt response. Within hours at least two operators were stationed at each shelter and at the Emergency Operations Center, providing tactical communications. National Traffic System (NTS) volunteers provided additional support, re-arranging their regular net and liaison schedules in order to facilitate the handling of out-of-state health and welfare traffic. Many thanks to all the amateur radio operators who gave generously of their time in support of the relief operation.

December's Operation Holiday Greetings posed a challenge to our dedicated volunteers. Our operators showed up at the Heritage Society museum in Essex on Sunday the 4th prepared to send holiday greeting messages from the general public via the NTS. Imagine our surprise when we were met by a museum official who regretfully informed us that they had rescheduled their holiday tree lighting festival for the following weekend, without informing us ! Unfortunately the three most experienced volunteers on the scene would all be out of town the following weekend. The remaining two volunteers were more than sufficiently enthusiastic and committed to the operation, but had no prior experience in formal message handling. Nevertheless, volunteers went above and beyond the call of duty to bring the operation to a successful conclusion. Special thanks to Paul, N3MOG, and Keith, N3NYW, for taking possession of the equipment on very short notice and bringing it back to the facility for use the following weekend; to Chuck, K3FT, for lending his expertise and leadership for the hastily arranged second weekend, and to Al W3YVQ for NTS support two weekends in a row. (By the way, I heard one of our greeting messages in transit while I was listening to a two-meter NTS net in Central New York the dayafter the event... it was fun to hear it arriving at the other end !)

The December holiday party was well attended, as was the program meeting where an informative and thought-provoking discussion of audio compander technology was presented. Please join us for the programming meeting in February, when Phil, N3CDY, will give a talk about the club's repeater systems.

... 73 de N3IVO/Rosie

Department of State Amateur Radio Club
W3DOS
Voice of America Amateur Radio Club
K3VOA

- W3DOS/K3VOA Repeater (144.59 MHz Input, 145.19 MHz Output)
- American Foreign Service Net meets Sundays: 1500 to 1530 UTC on 14316 kHz; 1530 to 1600 UTC on 21416 kHz; 1600 to 1630 UTC on 28416 kHz.

CLUB OFFICERS

The Department of State Amateur Radio Club held its annual election of officers 5 December 1994. The following were elected:

President: Philip W. Savitz, WA3GLA
ex-OE1ZZS/8P9GQ

Vice President: Dennis E. Panther, N3QKB
ex-5V7DP/6W8IC/C53FC

Secretary: George O. Glavis, WA6SBW

Treasurer: Jane B. Dorset, KG3R
ex-VS6JB

The Voice of America Amateur Radio Club elects officers every "even" year, so its current officers remain in place:

President: E. Allen Brown, WA3FYZ/ZF2AB

Vice President: Hubert B. Katz, KB3TB

Secretary: Stephen W. Bratcher, WE5X

Treasurer: Dexter Anderson, W4KM

The two clubs agreed that K3VOA/R should serve as a backup to the W3DOS/R repeater. The arrangement was coordinated by T-MARC and K3VOA/R went on the air 15 December 1994. The State and VOA clubs encourage active use of the repeater, which provides solid, open coverage of downtown DC.

Laurel Amateur Radio Club
A Volunteer Examiner Coordinator

- Meetings: 4th Wednesday of each month (except November & December) 7:30pm at 384 Main Street, Laurel Md; Social: 2nd Wednesday of each month, except December (Call for directions)
- Nets: 1st & 3rd & 5th Wednesdays, 8:30pm, on 147.225+, no tone.
- Mail: P.O. Box 3039, Laurel, MD 20709-0039
- Exams: 3rd Saturday of each month, 10:00am, at Maryland Radio Center, Laurel, MD
- Information: Jim/WI3N (301)725-6829 or Pud/W3DQI (301)498-6293

The Laurel ARC holiday banquet at Olivers in December was a real success. Approximately 45 members and guests attended. Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, ARRL Atlantic Division Director and Tony Young, WA3YLO, MD Section Club Coordinator, brought words of greeting and appreciation to the club for its support to public service activities. Santa Claus (Dick/N3MJA) dropped in to pass out his holiday cheer, with 73s and 88s to all. And then, we sat back and enjoyed some fine barbershop quartet singing by the "Leisure Time Granddads".

Now that everyone has settled down for their winter time hamming, we are looking forward to supporting the annual Washington Birthday Marathon, usually held on President's Day weekend (19 Feb), at Greenbelt, Md. For more information on the plans for this activity and others, join in the club net on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 2030 hours on 147.225+.

A General Theory class will be starting on 13 Feb (Monday) and run for 8 successive Monday nights at the West Laurel Recreational Facility located on Brooklyn Bridge Road at Bond Mill Road. The text for the class will be the ARRL General Class License manual. Call Pud/W3DQI, 301-498-6293, to pre-register.

73 de Roger/N3MIJ

Mid-Atlantic DX and Repeater Association

- Meetings: By published schedule, generally the second Thursday of each month. Meeting locations rotate among places in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.
- On the Air: 1930 Tuesdays, 147.06 MHz
- Repeaters: Frederick MD: 147.06, 224.20, 448.125; Martinsburg WV: 147.135
- Address: 230 North Potomac Street, Suite 2A, Hagerstown MD 21740
- Information: Call our Voice BBS: 301-416-8447; select Box 101 and leave message requesting club info - OR - Computer BBS: 301-416-8435; select Club Info.

After a gallant battle with medical problems and the general conditions we all will face from aging, Jim Cameron, KA3SDM, our spiritual leader and co-founder, became a member of the honored assemblage of Silent Keys in December. We are expecting the FCC to make some changes in the rules concerning callsigns; as soon as this happens we plan to preserve Jim's call as a club call. We have also taken the first steps in establishing a foundation to perpetuate Jim's memory with a scholarship program. The Great Depression denied Jim an advanced education but he never faltered in his respect and concern for general advancement of education and the opportunities Ham Radio offered for advancement of learning.

MADRA has now kicked into high gear on our first membership drive. We are a wide-based club with membership drawn from the nearby four-state area. Many of our members are also members of their local clubs. We hope to offer them a chance to expand the fellowship of Ham Radio to include their nearby states. Contact Sam, N3MPE, Membership Chairman via packet: N3MPE @ KD30.MD.USA.NA or use the Voice or Computer BBS contact info in the club masthead, above, if you'd like to join in our activities.

In error, this reporter advised you that the MADRA Santa Net was on December 18. The event took place on December 24 and was well received by the young people targeted as our audience. Erick, KE3PB, and Rick, N3RO, were the key participants. Many other MADRA members brought in the harmonics and those in the neighborhood to make it a successful event for all.

The MADRA Computer BBS is growing in its capabilities every week. A new WEFAX package is now available which provides a lot of info including frequencies and sample graphic output. Several Ham logging programs are now online and you can access the monthly MADRA Report in the Club Files area. There is also a WAS computerized map: color in each state as you confirm your contacts. New file areas are being added: (1) MAC Ham programs, (2) Games, (3) DX-Contest, (4) OSCAR/SAREX and (5) Ham Radio Trading Post.

MADRA is having good success with the monthly VE being held at St Paul's United Methodist Church, 51 South Main St., Smithsburn MD. We are in process of submitting our 1995 schedule for publication in AutoCall, but in February and March, keep the following dates in mind: Saturdays 2/18/95 and 3/18/95. Please pre-register by contacting Box 112 on our Voice BBS and remember that the usual ARRL VEC conditions apply: Exam Fee is $5.90 and your current license, copy of CSCEs, completed FCC Form 610 and a pre-registration form are needed. Don't forget a picture ID, too.

73 DE N2CSQ/3

Chapter X

Society of Wireless Pioneers

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PROFESSIONAL RADIO TELEGRAPHERS

For Information Call (703-536-9537

Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club

- Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m.(except December) Mt.Vernon Governmental Center 2511 Parker's Lane, Alexandria,VA 22308
- Repeater: WD4PDP 146.055 input / 146.655 output
- Nets: Every Tuesday at 9:00 p.m. Starts on 2 meters then moves to 10 meters on 28.408
- Mailing Address: Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club(MVARC) c/o Joe Salemi KR4CZ,
- P.O.Box 7234,Alexandria, VA 22307
- Information: John KI4HK,(703)780-2882 or Julie KD4WSZ,(703)799-9466

The annual MVARC Christmas Party was a success. Thanks to the efforts of Mary Morris and John forrest who organized the party. Entertainment was provided by local talent, The Splatters. The Splatters consist of the musical talents of Lynn, AC4SM, Frank, AA4ZS, Glen, KR4AT, Luis, KC4NUE, Joe, KR4CZ and Steve, WB4EEA.

Thanks to all who were able to help out with the Chili Softball event at Lee District Park.

February 1995 Special Events Announcement:

Mount Vernon, Virginia: The Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club will operate special events station N4BV from 1600Z - 2000Z February 18th and 19th to commemorate George Wahington's 263 birthday. Station will be located on Washington's Mount Vernon Estate. Frequencies:
The lower General 80M-15M phone and cw subbands, novice 10M phone subband and 2M packet @ WA3TAI.MD.USA.NOAM. For a handsome commemorative certificate, send QSL and 9 X 12 SASE to:
MVARC, P.O. Box 7234, Alexandria, VA 22307
For further info contact Dan, N4YKD at (703)354-1677

Contest Information: Dan, N4YKD @ (703)354-1677

Packet: MVARC maildrop KD4LST-1 on 145.650 or KD4LST @ WA3TAI

Testing Sessions: Second Saturday of each month, 9:00 a.m. at Robert E. Lee Recreation Center in Lee District Park 6601 Telegraph Rd., Alexandria VA 22310 No charge, walk ins are welcomed. Call Frank, N4GUS at (703)455-1510 for information or if you are interested in becoming a VE or helping out at the exams. You don't have to be a VE to help. The December testing session had a record turn out of over 40 people who took one or more elements. Wow, that makes for a busy day!

Class information: John Forrest (703)971-3905

Club attire is available: Contact Steve, WB4EEA at the meeting or by phone at (703)780-7248

Take care and 73, Chris / KD4LST

TEST EQUIPMENT
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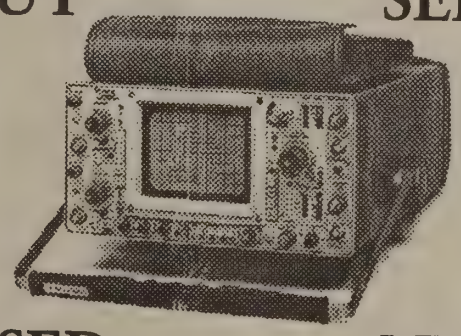
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FAX 301-490-6141

T-MARC
The Middle Atlantic FM And Repeater Council, Inc.

- Meetings: Frequency coordinating committee normally meets the last Monday of each month, 19:30, in the OEP conference room of the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Center off Central Avenue. Talk-in on 146.76 or 147.54 simplex when close-in.
- Address: P.O. Box 1022, Savage, Md. 20763-1022 for all correspondence.

A final reminder about the up-coming Annual Meeting and election on February 5th (with a rain-date of Feb. 12th) at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson Street, in Old Town Alexandria, Va., starting at 2 PM. We hope all repeaters will be represented, whether you are a member of T-MARC or not, since virtually all of T-MARC's activities affect all repeaters in one way or another.

Following up on last month's discussion of coded access on repeater inputs as a way to minimize interference and/or distant "nuisance" signals, it should be pointed that the use of coded access in most cases is not intended as a means to "close" a repeater, or limit its use to a specific group. Most repeaters in our area are "open" repeaters, where all Amateurs are welcome. If the access code is published in any of the repeater directories, this usually means the repeater is open and you are all invited to use it. Some repeaters only turn the access code on at certain times, such as a night (so the control operator can monitor without being awakened needlessly), or when some noise or interference problem pops up. So don't be afraid of, or avoid, repeaters that use coded access.

Here's the next question in our series about frequency coordination: "Who benefits from frequency coordination?"

In a nutshell, everyone does. Sponsors of existing coordinated repeaters are assured that the coordinator will attempt to protect their repeaters and users from interference caused by new repeaters. Likewise, sponsors of proposed new repeaters will get knowledgeable assistance from the coordinator when selecting frequencies for their new machines, so that they and their users can feel confident that their new operation will not adversely affect any existing repeaters, and they should experience little interference on their new machines. Finally, the users of coordinated repeaters can feel comfortable that their operation will probably not create any problems for the neighboring repeaters to the one they are using.

Recent coordination actions include coordination of a proposed new 145.390 repeater on Big Savage Mountain in western Maryland to KK3L. Several notices for proposed new coordinations were received from SERA (the coordinator for southern Virginia and West Virginia). These notices were reviewed and all appear to be compatible with our area. By the way, this is a good opportinuty to tell you that T-MARC automatically sends a notice to any appropriate adjacent-area frequency coordinator when a proposed new repeater in our area might affect repeaters outside of the T-MARC coordination area. This gives our neighboring coordinators an opportunity to do their job on behalf of their constituents.

The next "rule of thumb" tells how to easily determine the repeater offset for 440 MHz repeaters. All 440 repeater inputs and outputs fall between 440.0 and 450.0 MHz, and all coordinated 440 repeaters use a 5.00 MHz offset. So the simple way to tell whether the offset is + or - is to take the repeater output frequency and add (+) or subtract (-) 5.00 MHz from it. Whichever result falls between 440 and 450 tells you the correct offset. The wrong offset will cause you to transmit below 440 MHz or above 450 MHz (outside the Amateur band!).

Well, that's it for this month. Let us know if there is something T-MARC can do to help you. See you at the Annual Meeting.

73, Gary, W3DTN, T-MARC PIO

Maryland Emergency Phone Net

- Meetings: Nightly, 1800 Local, 3920 KHz
- Directors: WA1QAA, W3DQI, K3ONU, NF3X (Alternate)
- Manager: K3ORW; Secretary: WA3YLO; Treasurer: KC3ZJ
- FAR Representatives: KC3ZJ, WA3FYZ

Just to jog your memory, I will tell you that I am writing this on December 28; I'm just back from the golf course, and I think we enjoyed weather in the low sixties today! How is it out there now??? I also hope everyone had a very happy holiday season, both on and off the air.

On tonight's net, K3ORW/Jim titillated us with the announcement to watch for bigger and better things in the new year. Not to be outdone, W3YVQ/Al made the same statement, which I assume is in the ARES/RACES vein. I'm looking forward to what these gentlemen have to offer.

Dues are officially due. New-timers are urged to send in $7.00, and re-uppers are urged to remit $5.00. You should send this to KC3ZJ/Rino, the net treasurer. He's good in any callbook since Pegasus was a horse, but just in case: Rino De Masso; 5019 Cushing Drive; Kensington, MD 20895.

Propagation is getting funny, as it does this time every year. Several nights ago the Net Control Station was having trouble copying MD stations, as we were having trouble with the NCS. Along comes a station in Kansas who relayed some traffic liaison for us! The next night it was perfectly clear, and the next night we could hardly hear each other around the KP4's that were booming through. If propagation is your thing, 75 is the place to be!

Finally, I will do my masochistic thing and invite everyone who actually read this column to send me a short hamgram. Some suggested text: ARL FORTY SIX; ARL FIFTY THREE AUTOCALL COLUMN; ARL SIXTY 1995. To our recent new members I send ARL SIXTY NINE MEPN. And to our MDD reps: dadadididit didididadah!

Hope to see each of you ON THE AIR!

73, PUD/W3DQI

National Capitol DX Association

- Meetings: Feb, Apr, Jun, Oct and Dec at a Member's home. Contact the Secretary (Rick Murphy, WA1SPT) for details.
- On-The-Air: Every Sunday at 8:30 PM on the 147.000 repeater. All are welcome!
- Information: Rick Murphy-WA1SPT (703) 280-2637, Leo Boberschmidt-KA3TGY (301) 946-3738 or Brian Bayus-NlKCE (703) 264-1180 or N1KCE on the Local DX Cluster or NlKCE @ KF4TE. VA. USA.NA.

The World Radiosport Team Championship is coming to the Washington/Baltimore area in July 1995. The Chairman of the Site Committee, Bill Leavitt-W3AZ is looking for 50 stations within a 50 mile radius of downtown Washington, D.C. to volunteer their facilities from which the teams of two world-class operators can compete. The volunteer host stations need only provide an antenna system and space. The teams will bring their own rigs and ancillary equipment. If you want to volunteer your station for a few days (and we hope you will) please contact me or Bill Leavitt, directly, at 301-2925797 for more information and a Host Station application.

John Kanode-N4MM reports that final action on Vanity Callsigns appears to be coming soon. He will be keeping all of us apprised as to developments, as they happen.

Continued on next page

Fauquier Amateur Radio Association

- Meeting: 7:30 pm, Second Tuesday of the month except July, August & December. Shadow Lawn Recreation Center, Warrenton VA. Next meeting, February 14, 1995 at Fauquier's E 911 communications center
- Breakfast: Last Saturday of the month at Big Boy (next to HoJo's) Warrenton 7:30-9:00 am
- Net: Every Wednesday, 9:00 pm, 147.165 MHz Rptr
- Packet: FARA7 node 145.070 MHz with direct connect to FBBS9 Bulletin Board 145.090 MHz.
- Repeater: NZ4N/R 147.165 MHz (+0.600 MHz)
- Newsletter: Toroid, Monthly. (A complimentary issue is usually available from Warrenton Radio Shack.)
- Information: Don, WY2V, 347 5745

Fauquier Amateur Radio Association members, spouses, children and parents enjoyed a great party at the Marshall United Methodist Church on Saturday December 10. About 40 people had a wonderful feast of turkey, ham, and all kinds of fixings and other foods. We have a very talented group of cooks. Larry, K4LLQ, began with a blessing and we all enjoyed a most bountiful feast. Duffy Hearrell, KD6RNE, was the chief organizer. George Murphy, WD4KOJ, secured the use of the facility and his wife, Bonnie, WD4GOW, helped with the organization.

We were pleased to have the company of Reverend Levi, the Pastor, and his family participate in the festivities with us all. The hall was perfectly decorated and the Christmas tree helped set an attractive scene. we were especially pleased to see all the families on this one occasion in the year when we can relax in a comfortable locale with everyone. Door prizes, thanks to the donors, were raffled off and picked from Frank Ross's hat by lovely little young ladies. Winners included the Armstrongs, the Mills, the Murphys, the Harpers and the Courtneys.

Yes, we see many of the family members on Field Day but usually we're distracted by the ham goings on. At the annual party, though, things are different and we can talk at length. Obviously everyone had a wonderful time and the kids were everywhere enjoying themselves.

Don, WY2V and the club's new officers took the helm Jan 1. The first meeting of the year was scheduled to be a presentation by Fauquier's Red Cross organizer.

See you at the next meeting February 14, which will be a joint ARES/FARA visit to Fauquier's new Emergency 911 communications center.

Neil, AB4YK

NCDXA - Continued from page 41

Remember to check in to the NCDXA Meeting on the Air every Sunday evening at 8:30 PM local time on the 147.000 (-) repeater. All are welcome to join Leo Boberschmidt for the latest information on DX.

The next NCDXA meeting will be held on Saturday, February 25, 1995 at the home of Dave Hammond-WC4B at 3322 Saddlestone Ct. in Oakton, Virginia. Starting time and detailed directions will be posted on the DX Packet Cluster and published in the meeting notice to be sent to NCDXA Members. All are welcome and if you are not a Member and would like to attend, please contact me, Rick or Leo for information.

73 and Good DX
Brian Bayus, N1KCE, President

MADRAS
The
Maryland Apple Dumpling
Radio Amateur Society, Inc.

- Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursdays - 7:00 P.M. NBC Building - WKYS Conference Room 4001 Nebraska Avenue, Washington, DC 20016
- Net: 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 8:30 P.M. on 145.45 MHz
- Repeaters: 444.100/449.100 MHz; 145.45/144.85 MHz
- BBS: 135.030 MHz Call Sign: N3GKZ Alias: MADBBS (This is a closed BBS Station)
- Mailing: P.O. Box 2468 - Wheaton, Maryland 20902
- Information: Hani Read - AA3EI (-202) 223-3925; Larry Ziecheck - N3GKZ (301) 984-6-112; Jean Blacik - N3PLC (301) 984-6112

George Thevenet - KD4DGQ and Dan Gropper - KC40CG, from SKYWARN, gave an excellent presentaton to our group on the activities of their organization. Both were excellent speakers and worked well as a team. Thank you both for taking the time to inform us of the workings of SKYWARN.

The MADRAS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER was held at the Excaliber Restaurant in Rockville, Maryland on December 29th at 7:30 P.M. The dinner was delightful and we all had a good time eating, drinking and chatting. (Not necessarily in that order)

MADRAS has been given the opportunity to use the station at VOA (Voice of America) for our Presidential Weekend Special Event on February 18th and 19th. we will start operating at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday the 18th and continue until 7:00 P.M. on Sunday the 19th.

Two interesting guest speakers will be coming to our meetings in February. On the 9th we will have Bill Howard - WB3V, who is the ARRL MDC Section Manager. He will talk on ARRL and MDC section activities. Then on February 23rd we welcome Tony Young - WA3YLO, who is the ARRL, Affiliated Clubs coordinator and he will discuss the clubs and the club activities in the MDC section. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the meetings.

Happy Valentine's Day
73's ... Jean - N3PLC

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Anne Arundel Radio Club

- Meetings: 8 PM 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, Queen Anne Bridge & Wayson Roads off MD Rt. 214 near Annapolis.
- On The Air: 2030 Thursdays when there is no club meeting on 147.705/105. Tuesdays at 2030 local time on 28.410. Wednesdays at 2000 on 444.400. The Chesapeake Weather & Traffic Net on 147.705/105 at 1100 and 1500 every weekend day and public holiday from April 1 to November 15. MSN (Maryland Slow Net) every evening at 1930 on 3.7170 Mhz.
- Address: P.O. Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035
- Information: Margaret (Holly) Bevan, 410-923-0229

At the November 17th program meeting Club Member Rich Boyd/KE3Q and Mike Cizek/KO7V of the PVRC (Potomac Valley Radio Club) informed attendees of the World Radio Team Championship which will be held in the D.C. area on July 8th and 9th of 1995. They showed a videotape of the event when it was held in Seattle. The goal is to be the team making the most contacts in a 24-hour period. The sponsors hope to acquire up to 50 stations with similar antennas to host the international teams which will be coming from around the world. Anyone who has a 40-60 ft. (or higher) tri-bander and a dipole for 80 and 40 meters may apply to become a host station for the event. Contact Rich or Mike for more information on submitting an application.

The following slate of officers and directors was elected at the December 1st meeting to serve AARC during 1995: President Richard (Dick) McKelvie/KE3HQ, Vice-President-Margaret (Holly) Bevan/N3BMB, Secretary-Barbara White/N30BU, Treasurer-Bob Baltz/N3MNT and Directors-Bob Israel/WC3I, Lew Hendrixson/N3IJK and Charles Johnson/N3HFO.

The annual Club Family Christmas Party was held on December 15th in Ford Hall on the DFRC grounds and was a howling success, as usual. Coordinators Randy/N3MNX and Will/N3MNW DeKroney, along with their able helpers, did a great job. Close to 100 persons (including 15 children) enjoyed good food, great camaraderie and a visit from Santa who called each child by name to come up and receive a gift. Gift-bearing adults were able to choose a gift from under the tree.

AARC once again became an attraction at First Night Annapolis. Inside a picture window on Main Street Tony Young/WA3YLO at the HF station and Bob Baltz/N3MNT on packet performed for the passersby. Approximately 180 messages (about 75 % packet and 25% HF) were sent out across the country, They had a team of about seven able assistants to entice message senders and to put up antennas. An 80 meter inverted-V dipole was held up above the center roof by a pole and draped over both ends of the 60-foot building. A 2 -meter antenna was much simpler. The set-up worked very well.

At the clubhouse on December 10th Robert Israel/WC3I, Charlie Tiemeyer/W3RMD and Jeff Smith/N30KY gave 43 tests to 17 persons. Nineteen tests were passed with 10 upgrades. other members of the

team were: Dick McKelvie/KE3HQ, Herb Elkin/KA3FDO, Oscar Ramsey/NV3G, Robert Kammer/N3POX, Bettye Tiemeyer/K3VRZ and Holly Bevan/N3BMB. The next testing session at the Clubhouse will be on January 14th.

James Massey/N30HM has upgraded to Extra. Bruce Strackbein (formerly N3TJW) now answers to KE3PT and Nick Shearin has received his first call: N3TXY.

Metrovision Amateur TV Club
FAST SCAN-COLOR-ATV

- Meetings: Quarterly: Call for next meeting time and place
- Repeater: WA9GVK/4 (video and audio) 425-431 MHz in, 438-444 MHz out. Also accessible on 144.970 simplex audio.
- On-The-Air: Sundays (ATV Net) at 8:00 P.M. Wednesdays (Ragchew) at 8:00 P.M.
- Mailing: Metrovision, Inc., P.O. Box 8231, Falls Church, Va., 22041
- Information: Jim - KA4CKI (703) 494-6342; Tom - KO4OX (703) 752-21 00

Since this is the first Metrovision article for 1995, we want to take the opportunity to wish all of our members and friends a very happy and prosperous new year.

The first Metrovision ATV Club meeting for 1995 will be held at the QTH of WB3EPX - Dick sometime in early March. The details have not been worked out as yet, but I will get together with the club president KA4CKI - Jim to set a time and date for the meeting. As soon as that occurs, we will inform everyone probably with a mailing and in the March Auto Call article.

I would like to appeal to our members and friends to provide me with some material for these Auto Call articles. Any material received by me will certainly be used in one form or another.

The photos accompanying this article were taken at the Metrovision Summer picnic which was held at the QTH of KA4CKI - Jim.

See you on ATV.
73 Dick

Green Mountain Repeater Association

- Meetings: Board of Directors, Last Monday of each Month
- Repeaters: KD3VR - 146.61 (Cheverly) K3GXF - 146.88 (Greenbelt)
- Luncheon: First Saturday of each Month at the Fountain Cafe in the Laurel Shopping Center Mall, U.S. Rt. 1 (Baltimore Ave) and Cherry Lane. Starts at 11:30 A.M.
- Mailing: GMRA, P.O. Box 429, Riverdale, MD 20737
- Information: Boyd Nelson - KZ3Z (301) 434-0934

GMRA has it's regular monthly luncheon and members social meeting at Shoney's in the Laurel Lakes Mall area on Baltimore Ave. Rt.1. This was held the 2nd. Saturday, December 10, 1994 due to reservation circumstances.

There were approximately 33 members attending including family and friends. One of those attending was the unheralded Father of the green Mountain Repeater Assn. non other than our own Murry Green - K3BEQ. Thanks to Murry for his ingenuity and the forethought or possibly their wouldn't be a GMRA today.

Joe Nuemaker - KD3VR, President, summed up some of the conditions and status of the repeaters for 1994 and what to possibly expect in 1995. Paul Freirich - W3HFA, 1st. V.P. gave quite a detailed account of some of the repair and maintenance work done in 1994 at both repeater sites. C.T. David - K3GXF, Secretary gave an uplifting report, John Williams - N5SJR, 2nd V.P. spoke on editing mailing to members through better Zip Code routing. Boyd Nelson - KZ3Z, Treasurer, handed out new membership roster sheets and also a complete financial report for 1994.

Here's wishing everyone a healthy and happy 1995 from Ken Easton, N3HLY

Prince George's Wireless Association

- Meetings: First working Tuesday of each Month, 7:30 P.M.; American Red cross bldg.; 6206 Belcrest Rd. Hyattsville, MD 20782
- Club Station: K3CEZ
- Mailing: 4109 Kennedy St., Hyattsville, MD 20781
- Information: Frank Holton - WA3ZMW (301) 927-1245

PGWA transformed it's December 6, 1994 meeting into a Christmas social which turned out very well and enjoyed by all. There were lot's of goodies to eat, especially, the cup cakes that Frank - WA3ZMW bakes himself each year from his special country recipe book.

We did have a brief meeting in the way of announcements and the reading of incoming correspondence. There was, also, a general agreement among members to hold Packet Radio instructions and demonstrations the third Tuesday of each Month. Instructions will be given by Dave Black - WB3KXL.

Frank - WA3ZMW brought his T.V. and VCR combination to the party and played two very entertaining tapes that he acquired from Kitt's piano and organ music store. Frank is an avis organist and he plays quite well. He has 7 organs in his home. His favorite is a Technic GN3 which is electronic and he also has two old time pump organs. The tapes were new video tapes of two renowned organists ant the music was great including Christmas Songs.

Gifts were exchanged by numbers drawn from a hat and they were mostly radio or electronic goodies from the members old collection box. PGWA is looking forward to a happy and healthy 1995 and we also wish this to everyone in the Ham Radio Community and beyond.

73's from Ken Easton, N3HLY

AMSAT
The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation

- Local Meetings: Semiannual in March and September
- VHF FM Net: Sunday at 9 p.m. on 146.835 MHz FM, WA3NAN/R, Greenbelt, MD except on holiday weekends.
- Information: NCS Pat Kilroy, WD8LAQ @ WB3V.MD or by Internet: wd8laq @ amsat.org

Amsat is a non-profit, scientific and educational organization incorporated in Washington, D.C. with headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. Everyone is welcome to join AMSAT and to become actively involved in the support and operation of the amateur space program. If you would like additional information then you may write to: AMSAT Headquarters, PO Box 27, Washington, D.C. 20044. Or you may telephone headquarters at (301) 589-6062.

RS-15 ON ORBIT. The newest amateur satellite is available to use! RS-15 was launched on December 26 at 0300 UTC. RS-15 became available to amateurs within hours of the launch. Amateurs transmit two-meters ssb or cw up to the satellite and receive down from it on ten-meters.

The first contact through the new satellite reported in our local area was by Stan Iarosis, N2US, of Bowie, Maryland. Stan discovered RS-15 about twelve hours after the launch when, actually, he was looking for RS-10. The RS-15 beacon is at 29.352.5 kHz, just a few kilohertz lower than the RS-10 beacon.

During the first week, amateurs pooled their observed AOS and LOS times in order to develop a working orbital element set. Thus, predicting the RS-15 appearances became a snap. This is indeed a unique satellite and should prove to have lots of good DX and other fun as well. You may get updates on the newborn satellite via amsat-bb on the Internet, packet radio BBSs, and all AMSAT nets including our local two-meter FM repeater net.

NEXT SAREX. The next mission to carry SAREX will be STS-67 in early March with suburban Maryland's astronaut Ron Parise, WA4SIR, on board the Endeavour. Ron's fellow payload specialist is Sam Durance, N3TQA, from suburban Baltimore! Watch for operating tips in packet radio bulletins and AMSAT net announcements coming soon.

LOCAL AMSAT MEETING. The next local AMSAT meeting is tentatively set for Sunday afternoon, March 19, 1995 in Greenbelt, Maryland.

SUNDAY EVENING NET. The number of check-ins to the local AMSAT information VHF net has been quite humble since last summer. Each club that participates in the Foundation For Amateur Radio is welcome to note this public service and opportunity for self-training in their newsletter each month under "local nets of interest". New check-ins have commented how they "stumbled" across our net. They've expressed appreciation and wonder why itis kept "secret". It's no secret! We are here to guide and help!

Mark it on your calendar: Sundays at 9 p.m. on 146.835 MHz FM Greenbelt, MD. We don't want to miss you!

73, Pat WD8LAQ

ATTENTION QRP'ERS

Anyone interested in joining a QRP club in Northern Virginia? We meet once a month at a tavern, require no dues, concentrate mainly on QRP, but are into all aspects of Ham Radio. Have many events planned for next year including a QRP backpacking trip in the mountains, Field day, CQWW, Etc.
Call Doug Bankston, KB8IDW at home (703) 720-4328 or SASE to 105 St. georges Dr., Stafford, VA 22554

Northern Virginia FM Association

- Meetings: Fall, Winter, Spring
- Weekly Nets: NVFMA: Wed., 8 PM, 146.79, ARES: Sun., 9 PM, 146.91,
- Repeaters: 52.37/53.37, 146.19/146.79, 146.31/146.91, 222.50/224.10 Xlink, 222.74/224.34, 449.75/444.75, 1272.1/1292.1
- Membership Info: Ann Herlich, KD4GSU (703) 481-1458
- Mailing Address: NVFMA, P.O. Box 486, McLean, VA 22101

Your association is looking for volunteers to man the NVFMA table at the Vienna Winterfest. An hour or two would be greatly appreciated. Contact KB4CVL or any member of the board if you care to help.

Tech-Tip: Often misunderstood, the difference between a "diplexer" and a "duplexer", is the following:

Diplexer: A multicoupler device for permitting the simultaneous use of several transmitters or several receivers in connection with a common element such as an antenna system; the diplexer DOES NOT permit simultaneous transmit and receive.

Duplexer: A device that does permit the simultaneous use of a transmitter and receiver in connection with a common element such as an antenna system.

73's, Ann, KD4GSU

Quarter Century Wireless Association
Vic Clark Chapter 91

- Meetings: Every Two Months as announced
- Sunday Morning Net: 9AM on 146.790 MHz
- Information: Call Secretary Lew Bardley (703) 780-9292
- Mailing Address: 8520 Culver Place, Alexandria, VA 22308

In keeping with our long standing tradition of holding a joint luncheon with other QCWA Chapters in the greater Washington area and Chapter 10 of the Society of Wireless Pioneers a most enjoyable luncheon was held on December 17 at the Ramada Inn in Tyson's Corner.

This affair has become a most looked forward to event as it affords a large number of Amateurs from this area a great opportunity to renew their friendship and get caught up on all kinds of amateur related topics. This year we had 47 people in attendance with all organizations represented. Business as usual was kept to a minimum with the principal objective of enhancing the fellowship.

A drawing to determine the winners of a large number of floor prizes was held and thanks to EEB and HRO who were very generous this year with their contributions and other donations from members, the number of winners came close to including all in attendance. Our usual 50/50 drawing was well supported this year with the Winner getting a tidy bit of change.

Our President Jim Wilcox (K4JAP) presided at the podium and his clever wit was at its best this year as he introduced a number of people and conducted the very brief business portion. I think Jim was one of the few to miss out on the floor prizes. Jim was assisted by Jack Kelleher (W4ZC) who gave a very brief account of the 29-30 September QCWA Board meeting and a health report on several members including the National President Lew McCoy (W1ICP) who has just recently had a quintuple bypass surgery. His recovery appears to be good and we all wish him a quick recovery.

When we adjourned it was with the best of intentions to make next year just as good if not better.

73' Lew (W4SWP)

Widow's Assistance Program

The Foundation's Widow's Assistance Program has been in operation for many years and has accomplished a great deal for the families of our Silent Keys. The program offers to help widows (and other family members) evaluate and dispose of radio equipment in an Amateur's estate. Listings of Estate Sales are carried in the Shack Sales of Auto-Call magazine free of charge, and major items may be offered for sale at local hamfests, etc. No fee or commission is charged the families.

One other option that should be considered is donating equipment to a club taking a tax write-off for the charitable contribution. The Widow's Assistance Program can help you find a club that will make good use of the equipment. Some commercial operations are also willing to purchase the complete list of equipment and clear everything out at once. This may be the quickest solution in disposing of an estate.

Every ham is encouraged to maintain a list of his/her radio equipment, with realistic evaluations, and instructions on the disposition of any specific items you would like to have go to a special person or organization. Keep your family advised of your wishes.

For more information about the Widow's Assistance Program contact any local Foundation member club or call (301) 262-1917.

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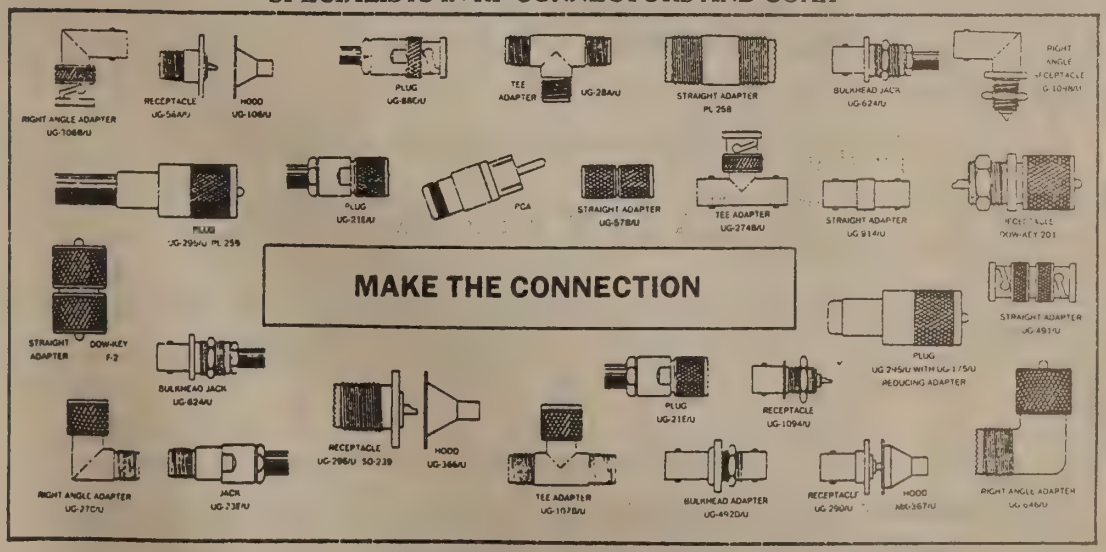

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Estate sales for Widows assistance handled by a FAR club will be published without cost.

Full name and address must be provided with each ad but need not be published. No ads will be accepted over the telephone and all ads must be pre-paid. Ads that will be running for longer than 1 month must be accompanied by a letter stating the length that the ad is to be run. Since no effort is made to investigate advertisers, no warranty can be applied.

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FOR SALE: National NC 125 Receiver, needs some work: $50.00
Hallicrafters S-85 Receiver, works, needs some TLC: $65.00
Hammarlund SP-600 receiver, good condx, needs some TLC: $150.00
Call Jim (AA3DN) between 6 AM and 8 PM at (301) 530-21990 (Bethesda)

FOR SALE: Tektronix 564B storage scope, with 3A72 Dual trace amp, 3A9 Differential amp, and Tektronix scopemobile, all in Excellent condition: $160.00 Call Jim (AA3DN) between 6 AM and 8 PM at (301) 530-21990 (Bethesda)

FOR SALE: KENWOOD TS-830S, All bands including WARC. Solid State with built-in power supply, manual and MC-50 microphone, includes special IF filter and CW filter. Just back from Kenwood $675.00 Contact Harry Kaklikian, W4ACN, 4941 Andrea Ave. Annandale, VA 22003 (703) 978-4402

FOR SALE: Collins 30L-1 Amplifier. This amp has new filters, diodes, and tubes. With manuals $550.00 Contact Harry Kaklikian, W4ACN, 4941 Andrea Ave. Annandale, VA 22003 (703) 978-4402

Your SHACK SALE Items Could Be Listed Here For Just A Few Cents!

FOR SALE: Index Labs, QRP PLUS 160-10 Meter HF Transceiver. SSB/CW operation. SCAF filter, Digital display, Full break-in CW keying, Synthesized and will operate split frequency. Mint Condition. Will ship in CONUS $595.00 Contact: Bill W4NFR, Warrenton, VA (703) 347-7262 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: KENWOOD TS-700A, 2 Meter All Mode Base Transceiver, with Shure hand microphone, Good Condition, w/owners manual $300.00 obo, ROHN 25G Base Plate, $20. HW-1680 Receiver, works, but needs some work, $40. 16 Element 70cm Oscar Twist Antenna, $40. Contact Charlie, N3CHN, Woodbine (410) 442-5849

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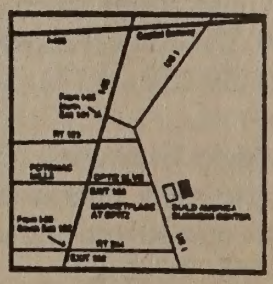

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